AZAMGARH:

A GAZETTEER,

BEING

VOLUME XXXIII

OF THE

DISTRICT GAZETTEERS OF THE UNITED PROVINCES OF AGRA AND OUDH.

EDITED AND COMPILED

BY

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GAZETTEER OF AZAMGARH.

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PREFACE.

THE old Gazetteer of Azamgarh was compiled and edited by Mr. F. H. Fisher, and did not profess to be more than a reconstruction, in the form of a Gazatteer, of the ample materials in Mr. J. R. Reid's Settlement Report; while the directory appears to have been compiled by Babu Bhuban Chandar Bose, the head clerk of the Azamgarh collectorate. The new volume is different in form, but most of the material, as in the old, has been derived from Mr. Reid's Settlement Report—a book which, as every officer who has been in the district admits, contains complete information on almost every matter and gives almost as true a picture of the district to-day as it did in 1877. For new matter I am chiefly indebted to the rent-rate, assessment and final settlement reports of Messrs. J. C. Smith and C. E. Crawford, I.C.S.; while the history has been compiled from a variety of sources and the directory has been greatly enlarged. I also desire to acknowledge the ready help rendered by Mr. G. C. W. Ingram in supplying material and notes on various points.

NAINI TAL:
July 1909.

D. L. D.-B.

GAZETTEER OF AZAMGARH.

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ABBREVIATIONS.

E. H. I.—The History of India, as told by its own Historians, by Sir H. M. Elliot, K.C.B.

J. A. S. B.—Journal of the Asiatic Society of Bengal.

DISTRICT

AZAMGARH.

Scale—1 Inch = 8 Miles.

10 5 0 10 Miles.

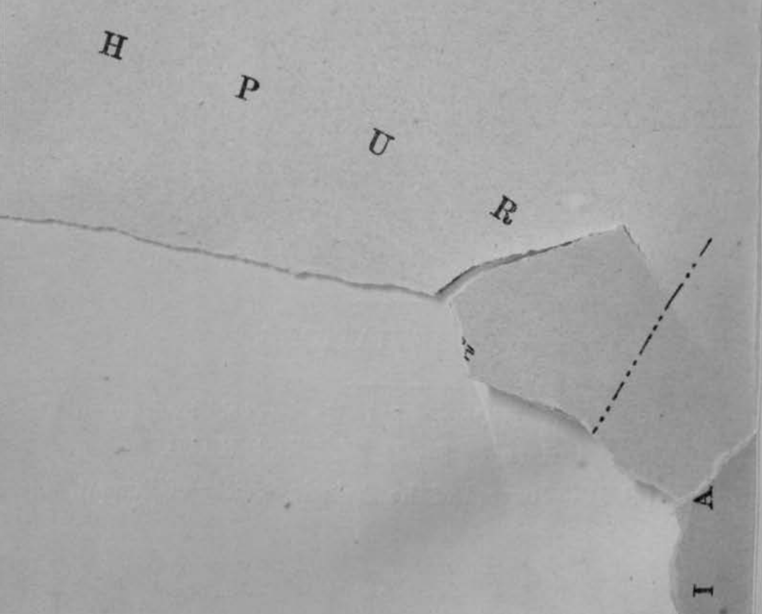


REFERENCES.

Chief Town	AZAMGARH
Tahsil	SAGRI
Pargana Capital	MAU
Police Station	Madhuban
Town or Village	Majhwara
Railway	
Metalled Road	
Unmetalled "	
District Boundary	
Tahsil "	
Pargana "	
Pargana Bela Daulatabad	1
District Fyzabad	2
Tahsil Ahraula	3

Photo.-Mechl. and Litho. Dept., Thomason College, Roorkee.

Zinco., November, 1909.—No. 5638.


H P U R
A
I

CHAPTER I.

GENERAL FEATURES.

Boundaries and area. THE district of Azamgarh is the southernmost of the three which constitute the Gorakhpur division and comprises a somewhat irregularly shaped tract of country lying south of the Ghagra river between the parallels of 25° 38′ and 26° 27′ north latitude and 82° 40′ and 83° 52′ east longitude. It is bounded on the east by the Ballia district, on the south by the districts of Jaunpur and Ghazipur, and on the west by those of Jaunpur and Sultanpur, the boundaries in each case being purely artificial. On the north lie the districts of Fyzabad and Gorakhpur; but whereas there is no natural frontier between Azamgarh and Fyzabad, the Ghagra river separates this district from Gorakhpur for the whole length of their common boundary. The extreme length of the district from west to east is 69 miles, and the extreme breadth from north to south is 54 miles. The total area is a variable quantity. This is due to the erratic action of the Ghagra river which is apt to vary its channel from year to year in a remarkable fashion. According to the returns of the last survey and settlement, the total area was 1,413,731 acres; but these were not the returns of a single year and a more satisfactory estimate will be obtained if an average of several years be struck. It is necessary, however, to notice that 67 square miles of territory comprised in 102 villages were transferred to Azamgarh from Gorakhpur on October 1st, 1904; so that the average area of the district for the three years ending in 1907 amounts to 1,412,613 acres or 2,207·2 square miles. In the western parganas there are several villages belonging to Fyzabad which are isolated in the midst of Mahul, and there is one isolated village of Azamgarh in Fyzabad territory.

Topography. In its general aspect the district is a level plain without any hills or natural eminence, the only variations in the surface being

caused by the banks of the small streams that drain it. Except in the proximity of the Ghagra, the country slopes very gently towards the south-east. Here and there will be found depressions of varying depth and extent, in which the surface drainage of the interior collects. On the other hand, there are some high-lying *usar* plains. Neither in the hollows nor in the *usar* do trees grow, and the landscape of the southern half of the district, where they are few, for the greater part of the year is dreary in the extreme. There are only two natural divisions—the southern low-lying tract and the northern or high-lying tract. They differ markedly from one another, and in the latter a distinction may be drawn between the interior uplands which consist of comparatively old formations of alluvial deposit, and the riverine alluvium, which lies in the valleys of the rivers and is liable to change.

The Southern tract.

The dividing line of the two tracts lies roughly along the metalled road which runs from Shahganj through Azamgarh to Mau. The soil of this portion of the district is, for the most part, clay ; much of the land lies low and marshes and lakes abound. It is drained by the Gangi, Udanti, Besu, Mangai and Bhainsahi rivers. These take their rise in lines of swamps, beginning in the case of the Gangi, Besu, and Mangai on the western border of the district or in Jaunpur beyond, and in the case of the Udanti and Bhainsahi within the district itself. These rivers all flow in an easterly or south-easterly direction and their waters eventually fall into the Ganges, those of the Gangi and Besu directly, those of the Udanti after joining the Besu, and those of the Mangai and Bhainsahi after uniting with the Sarju. In the upper portions of their courses the beds of these streams are but little below the level of the surrounding country, and they are dammed at frequent intervals for irrigation ; it is only on the eastern confines of the district that their channels are deeply cut and well-defined. In this direction also the soil is lighter and the villages more resemble those in the northern half of the district ; but such villages are

few in number and form but a small portion of the tract. Throughout the remainder the country consists of alternate elevations and depressions, the latter containing marshes and rice land, the former, where the soil is good and not infected with *usar*, being occupied by hamlets which are surrounded by every variety of crop. The area of this portion of the district may be roughly put at 928 square miles.

The Northern tract.

The northern tract is divisible into two portions, the uplands known as *bangar* and the lowland in the vicinity of the Ghagra which is called the *kachhar*. The *bangar* is the most fertile and most stable portion of the district. A portion of it is cut off from the rest in the north-east by the Chhoti Sarju. This is drained partly by that river and partly by some minor channels flowing into the Ghagra. But the rest of the *bangar* is drained by the Tons river and its affluents, the Kunwar, Ungri, Majhui, Silani, Saksui and Kayar. The Tons itself crosses the district from Ahraula in the west to Mau in the east, near which it joins the Chhoti Sarju. Both it and its tributaries have deep, well-marked sinuous courses, that of the Tons being particularly tortuous. The valley of the Tons is narrow, and on this account there are periodical floods which do a considerable amount of damage along its course ; but, so far as the crops on either side are concerned, the area affected is not large. The soil of the *bangar* tract is a good firm loam which, in the neighbourhood of the rivers, becomes light and in a few cases even sandy. Clay is found in the narrow depressions in which the various drainage channels originate, and there are isolated patches of clay and *usar* resembling those found in the southern tract. These are not, however, numerous ; and, generally speaking, groves and trees are numerous, giving to the landscape a cheerful and smiling prospect. The fertility of the soil is great, the population is very dense, and the people are scattered all over the village area in small hamlets and tiny settlements.

The portion of the northern tract which is included in

the *kachhar* area consists of two portions, one being the valley of the present Ghagra river and the other an old bed. The *kachhar* in the former direction forms a strip of country on the average six miles broad, except at one point, namely, Dohri-ghat. Here the *bangar* juts out to the north, protected by *kankar* reefs, and with the aid of a similar promontary on the north bank confines the river in a channel not half-a-mile wide. It is a few miles to the west of Dohri that the Ghagra itself, or a large branch of it, at one time turned to flow in a southerly direction across the district to join the Ganges. This bed has long been deserted and is now only occupied by the Chhoti Sarju, a comparatively smal stream; but the effect of the great river's passage has never been obliterated and the surface of the country is markedly different from that of the *bangar*, which flanks it on either side, and closely resembles the land in the vicinity of the Ghagra itself. The Chhoti Sarju rises in the Fyzabad district and, after flowing across Atraulia, enters the alluvial country in the north of pargana Gopalpur. In Gopalpur a branch of the Ghagra has cut into the channel of the Chhoti Sarju and scoured out a wide course for it until it approaches the eastern boundary of pargana Sagri. At this point the water of the Ghagra returns to the parent stream through the Badrauwan *nala*, while the Chhoti Sarju begins a separate life again. It then flows down the old, abandoned bed of the Ghagra and joins the Tons a little above the town of Mau, the united stream being henceforth known as the Sarju and falling into the Ganges near Ballia. The soil in the *kachhar* is, for the most part, sand covered in the depressions with deposits of clay silt of varying thickness. But the Ghagra is far less rich in silt than the Ganges, and the general quality, especially in the immediate vicinity of the main stream, is not high. Those portions of the northern strip of *kachhar* that lie at some distance back from the river and the whole of that which lies along the lower course of the Chhoti Sarju are less liable to floods and injurious deposits than those portions which are situated nearer the stream ;

they maintain a fair average of fertility, but it is well below that of the *bangar*. The whole of this division of the district is liable to injury from floods, which have been known to sweep through the Ghagra valley and down that of the Chhoti Sarju to a point beyond the village of Pakri ; and the country abounds with long narrow lakes which are really only sections of old water courses, the best known and largest of these being those of Salona, Pakri-Pewa and Narja.

There is little to be said concerning the soils of Azamgarh, as they are nearly all varieties of clay ; but differences are locally recognised and these deserve some mention. The clay which is the predominant soil in the southern portion of the district is divided into three classes. The clean grey clay which contains little organic matter is the prevalent variety and is known as *matiara ;* while that which lies in the depressed rice-lands and assumes a blackish colour from the admixture of organic matter is known to the people as *karail.* In the vicinity of the raised waste tracts, the soil is lighter both in texture and in colour and is called *kabsa ;* it appears to have in it a larger amount of saline matter than either *matiara* or *karail* and it is a less fertile soil. It also dries soon and cracks but little, whereas *karail* shrinks greatly under the influence of drought. *Matiara*, on the other hand, is a fertile, plastic clay which grows all varieties of crops. In the northern portion of the district, the proportion of sand in the soil is greater than in the south, and the prevailing earth becomes a loam, known to the people as *balsundar ;* while a very sandy variety is called *balui.* Clay soils and rice-lands, however, are also met with, generally in or near the swamps and lakes. Besides these natural divisions, artificial distinctions are also recognised by the people, and, considered with reference to their crop-bearing capabilities, the soils of the district may be divided into two great classes – the rice-lands called *kiari*, *dhanao*, or *dhankar*, and those bearing spring and other crops which are known as *harjins.* In the *harjins* area the people draw a further distinction between the land round and between the hamlets which regularly receives the most labour and the best manure, and the out-lying Soils.

fields. The former is known as *per* and the latter as *palo*, an anology being drawn from a tree, the trunk of which is called *per* and the out-lying branches *palo* or *palair*. These terms are not, however, universally applied to *harjins* land only ; but in some parts, especially in the south of the district, the *harjins* land is generally spoken of as *per*, the other term, *palo*, being applied to the rice-land. *Per* corresponds to the *bara*, *gauhan*, *goenr*, or *goind* of other districts ; but the intermediate class of land, which is generally known in the Doab as *manjha*, is not represented in Azamgarh.

The Ghagra River.

The Ghagra is a great river, navigable throughout its length in this district, and indeed for a long distance beyond the boundaries of Azamgarh, by boats of as much as 1,000 maunds burthen. The river has its origin in the mountains of Kumaun and Nepal, and is formed by the combined waters of the Chauka, Kauriala, Rapti and many smaller streams. It swells during the rains to an immense size, and, as the current is then very strong and rapid, the damage done by flooding is frequently severe. The course of the river in this district is only confined to a single channel at Dohri-ghat where *kankar* reefs appear: elsewhere its banks consist of the soft sandy deposits which it has itself formed. The valley varies in width, but is sometimes as much as ten miles broad ; and when flood water is passing down the river, the current oscillates within wide limits. Its action, however, is capricious in the extreme. It will at times form one or more subsidiary channels, into any one of which it may suddenly turn its whole force, tearing through the intermediate land. At such times it deposits nothing but sand ; but at other times it will confine itself to a single channel and lay down stretches of fertilising silt. The sudden changes to which the Ghagra's course is liable have been well illustrated during the last forty years. For two or three years before 1872 the river began cutting away much of the high land on its banks in Natthupur ; three or four deep *nalas* were also excavated by it towards the south, through which large rapid streams flowed into the Ratoi Tal and out again into the Ghagra by the Haha *nala*. To prevent this again occurring a large embank-

ment, over eight miles in length, was constructed from Surajpur to Dubari. This embankment, however, proved insufficient to divert the course of the river; further works were constructed on an extensive scale in 1895, and subsequently it was found necessary to throw out spurs in the hope of restraining the river. Again in 1885 the river began to threaten the road which leads from Jaunpur to Gorakhpur to the west of Dohri-ghat, and so serious was its encroachment that a diversion of the road for about two miles was constructed. But the most important recent change in the course of the Ghagra is that which was directly responsible for the transference of 67 square miles of territory from Gorakhpur to Azamgarh in 1904. In 1879 the river formed the common boundary between the two districts for its entire length in Azamgarh. At the resurvey of the district in 1901, it was found that close above the Fyzabad and Azamgarh boundary the Ghagra broke up into three minor channels and one main channel, the latter of which was then flowing some six miles within the Gorakhpur boundary. At the village of Gangipur all the channels united and formed a single stream for a distance of about three miles, this stream constituting, from Gangipur to Parsia, the dividing line between the two districts. Since the re-adjustment of territory in 1904, however, the Ghagra has again become the common boundary of Gorakhpur and Azamgarh, its total length from point to point being about 44 miles.

Other rivers and streams.

The minor channels that traverse the district have already been mentioned : none of them are in any sense important streams and they will be again briefly noticed in connection with the drainage system of the district. Some account too has been given of the Chhoti Sarju ; but the only stream that can be dignified with the name of a river is the Tons, into which the Chhoti Sarju flows. The Tons takes its rise many miles beyond the borders of Azamgarh in the district of Fyzabad. It flows parallel with the Ghagra till it enters the district six miles north-east of Mahul : it is soon after joined by a small tributary called the Majhui on the borders of pargana Nizamabad and it flows thence in a very tortuous course for about 35 miles to the civil station of Azamgarh. Thence it

runs north-eastwards for eight miles to Birman in the south of Sagri and then south-eastwards past Muhammadabad to the point of junction with the Chhoti Sarju. The united stream flows south-south-east through pargana Mau-Nathbhanjan and again for a short distance through pargana Muhammadabad, finally passing out into the Ghazipur district. The stream of the Tons is perennial, but during the dry months of the year only a sluggish current of water flows in the bottom of its bed. For four or five months the stream is said to be large enough to bear boats of over one hundred maunds burthen, but it is little used for traffic.

Lakes and swamps.

The lakes and *jhils* of the district are not only very numerous, but in many cases of considerable size. Altogether nearly 140,000 acres are under water, and although this also includes the rivers, the latter constitute but a small proportion of the whole. The area is greatest in tahsil Ghosi, and after that come Sagri, Deogaon and Ahraula. Most of these swamps are due to the existence of depressions in the surface of the country ; but whereas some of them find a natural outlet for their surplus waters down the *nalas* which drain the country and indeed form the sources of those *nalas*, others lie in depressions between the main drainage lines of the country and have no such outlet. Those that exist in the *kachhar* country, however, have probably had their origin in fluvial action in the past, and represent a pool in the course of some old stream. Lakes and *jhils* are more numerous in the southern portion of the district than in the northern. Those that lie at the heads of *nalas* become dry or nearly so in the hot season, except where the flow of surplus water has been obstructed by the dams which are commonly thrown across them at short intervals : in the rainy season, however, they are full of water and spread over considerable areas. Those, on the other hand, which lie between the drainage channels are only able to discharge their surplus water into the *nalas* and generally hold water for a longer period than those at the heads of the *nalas*, though they rarely outlast the hot weather. In the northern tract the swamps with which the drainage channels are connected are not so extensive as in the southern tract ; nor in the uplands between the main channels are the marshes or lakes so numerous and large as they are there.

The largest of these lakes are, in the southern tract, those known as Kotail, Jamuawan and Gumadih in tahsil Deogaon; the Kumbh lake on the border of pargana Mahul and Deogaon; the Pukh lake in pargana Mahul; the Asauna lake in Muhammadabad; and, largest of all, the Gambhirban lake in pargana Nizamabad. While the water in these holds out, they abound in aquatic vegetation and contain considerable quantities of fish. In the northern section of the district, however, the only lakes that deserve mention are the Koila and Kasila-Gasila lakes in pargana Mahul, the Kaili and Duhia-Birna lake in pargana Atraulia, the Ara lake on the borders of Kauria and Atraulia, the Telhnan lake on the borders of Kauria and Nizamabad, and the Manchhil lake in pargana Ghosi; there is also a chain of swamps in pargana Sagri. But the most important lakes are to be found in the *kachhar*. The Salona Tal in Sagri is estimated to be over 12,000 feet long by 9,000 feet broad, its depth being some 20 feet. The Pakri-Pewa Tal in Ghosi is 6 miles long, 2 miles broad, and some 25 feet deep; while the Narja Tal in Muhammadabad and the Ratoi Tal in Natthupur cover each some 5,000 acres. The first three of these never dry up completely and have probably been formed by the Ghagra with which each is still connected by a small channel; though in 1897 most of the Salona Tal dried up, its bed being sown with wheat. The Pakri-Pewa is the largest and the deepest of these lakes, and on its surface are floating masses of vegetation, locally known as *lads*, which are said to be capable of supporting a person walking on them. The Ratoi Tal has an outlet to the east, called the Haha, of which mention has already been made.

Drainage. Though the Ghagra is the largest river in the district, little of the drainage of Azamgarh falls into it. The only streams that join it are a few minor *nalas* in the *kachhar* of the north, such as the Badrauwan and the Haha, and two small streams, the Pharai and the Basnai, which drain parganas Natthupur and Ghosi; but though the latter run into the Ghagra, they do so beyond the boundaries of the district. The drainage system of Azamgrah has been explained to some extent by the foregoing account of the swamps and *jhils* and it only remains to amplify it.

The southern portion of the district is a series of narrow parallel sections of country that lie longitudinally east and west. They are divided from each other by lines of swamps, and, after the outlets from the swamps become well-defined, by the *nalas* whose names have already been mentioned. While the drainage lines are in the initial stage of swamp, the country in their neighbourhood is, during the rainy season, little better than a large shallow lake. As the outlets work eastward and become deeper, the country within immediate reach of them is much more rapidly and effectively drained. But in the table-land between their deepened beds, new catchment basins and drainage systems are formed, which also end eventually in *nalas* and well-defined water courses. Hence, although the eastern portion of the district is on the whole better and more rapidly drained than the western, extensive marshy tracts are not wanting there also. The northern portion, however, is not, like the southern, divided into natural sections of regular form. Some of the drainage channels take their rise in a series of swamps, as in the south; but others such as the Kunwar, Majhui, Tons, Silani and Suksui have well-defined deep-cut channels, the land in the vicinity of their banks being in some cases cut up by ravines. As might also be gathered from the comparative rarity of deep marshes, therefore, this portion of the district is much more effectively drained than the southern. Generally speaking, the drainage of the northern tract is sufficient, but in the southern tract it is liable to derangement if the monsoon is at all abnormal. Here too some obstruction is offered to the flow of surplus water by artificial means, for the natural escape is blocked by the people themselves in order to conserve water for rice cultivation.

'aste land.

Though development has been carried to a high pitch in Azamgarh, the barren area is, compared with some other districts, large. The figures vary slightly from year to year and consequently a better idea can be obtained by taking the average for a period of years, while those of 1908, the latest year on record, will be found in the appendix.* For the three preceding years the area returned as barren waste

* Appendix, table V.

averaged 334,505 acres or over 23 per cent. of the entire district, the annual fluctuations varying with the total area. These returns, however, require some further explanation for the greater part of the land coming under this head cannot properly be described as barren, at any rate in the sense of waste land unfit for cultivation. As has been already remarked, nearly 140,000 acres are covered with water; while of the remainder 44,470 acres are occupied by village sites, roads and the like. There remain, therefore, some 151,800 acres which are actually unculturable or less than 10 per cent. of the whole district. Among the tahsils the area is greatest in Deogaon where it averages 45,731 acres, and after Deogaon come Ahraula with 35,586, Muhammadabad with 29,368, and Azamgarh with 25,696 acres. There are only 11,000 acres of barren waste in Sagri and no more than 4,424 acres in Ghosi, the proportion to total area in the last tahsil being only 1·89 per cent. The area is not only actually but also relatively largest in Deogaon where it comprises 18·38 of the total area of the tahsil, while it exceeds 13 per cent. in Azamgarh, Ahraula and Muhammadabad. These waste lands consist for the most part of the soil generically called *usar*. In its narrower and more strict interpretation, *usar* only implies land which has been injured by the saline efflorescence known as *reh*. These waste tracts are generally on a comparatively high level and, in the southern portion of the district especially, they alternate with low-lying rice-lands. During the dry months of the year the *usar* plots are covered for the most part with a white puffy dust, but in some of them the efflorescence does not appear on the surface, though the soil may be strongly infected with saline ingredients which preclude cultivation. The *usar* patches in the *bangar* or old alluvium of the northern portion of the district are chiefly found in the tracts where the drainage channels take their rise, but both here and in the southern portion of the district a considerable proportion of the waste is accounted for by the ravine land along the Tons river and other streams. This is particularly the case towards the east where these drainage channels carve out deepbeds and the scour on either bank denudes the surface soil of its fertilising ingredients. Some of this land is covered with trees, and in such

places erosion of the upland by ravines has been considerably restricted. It has also been checked in places by judicious terracing and elsewhere by the construction of embankments; but the country near the streams has been, in many instances, altogether denuded of surface soil, exposing beds of *kankar* or hard, brown, barren clay. The name *usar* is frequently applied to waste in general, whether it is infected with *reh* or only otherwise unculturable; but not all such land is irreclaimably barren. It frequently happens that land on which, in the dry season, *reh* appears will, if cropped with rice, produce, under favourable conditions of rainfall, a good crop. The reason for this appears to be that so long as such land is kept flooded for rice, the salts in the soil are not attracted to the surface. When, however, such land is used for crops other than rice and is not flooded, the salts rise to the surface and prevent germination.

Jungles. There are no forests in the district and, strictly speaking, no jungles worthy of the name. Along the Ghagra there are large expanses of sandy ground known as *dewaras* covered with *jhau* or tamarisk; but the *kachhar* tracts are generally most deficient in trees. In the interior of the district, near the Tons and some of the other streams, there are a few woods of *paras* or *dhak*, *sihor*, *akol*, *babul*, and other wild trees. Altogether there are some 50,000 acres in the district recorded as covered with scattered trees and bushes, nearly half of which are to be found in tahsil Ahraula. Pasture land for cattle is very deficient in Azamgarh. Except during the rains and in the alluvial tracts near the Ghagra, there is very little grazing and the cattle have to be mostly stall-fed. In the few places where the *dhak* jungles still remain, the cattle are a little better off for pasture than elsewhere. The *usar* plains bear no more useful vegetation than a brownish-coloured grass known as *usaraili*, the sharp points of whose leaves protrude like prickles through the *reh* efflorescence; it is useless for grazing as cattle will not eat it.

Groves. On the other hand, though jungles are rare, Azamgarh, except for the southern tract, is a fairly well wooded district. The number of groves in the northern *bangar* tract filled with mango and other trees is large and gives a pleasing variety to the land-

scape. For the three years ending in 1907 the average area recorded as covered with groves was 25,767 acres, forming 1·81 per cent. of the whole district. The area, however, does not appear to have expanded, for at the settlement concluded in 1877, the area so recorded in the 5,369 villages which are temporary settled was 23,915 acres as against 25,259 acres recorded at the recent settlement of 1908. The best wooded tahsils are Ghosi and Azamgarh, where the proportion of land covered with groves amounts to 2·41 and 2·25 per cent., respectively, of the total area of the tahsils. At the opposite extreme is Deogaon where the *usar* plains are most extensive, the proportion of grove land to total area being only ·97 per cent In Ahraula the proportion just exceeds 2 per cent., while in Sagri and Muhammadabad it closely approaches the district average. The commonest tree, at any rate in groves, is the mango; but the *mahua*, *shisham*, *nim*, *pipal*, *bargad*, *gular*, *amaltas*, *bakain*, *kachnar*, *jamun*, *imli*, and *sirsa* are all to be found singly or in clumps around the village sites or in the fields. The *kathal* or jack-fruit is not a very common tree in Azamgarh; but the fruit of those that grow in the district is reported to be particularly good. In some places too, especially in the northern parganas, the *tar* or toddy-palm is abundant, and a large income is annually derived from the lease of the right to collect and sell the *tari* or sap obtained by tapping. Besides the groves and scattered trees in the district, there are some 50 miles of road-side avenues in Azamgarh. For purposes of arboriculture the district board maintains four nurseries, two being at Azamgarh and one each at Dohri and Muhammadpur. Along the provincial roads arboriculture is in the charge of the Public Works department; but along the local metalled roads avenues are maintained by that department at the cost of the district board. On local unmetalled roads trees are planted and looked after by the district board itself. The chief varieties planted along the roads are those already mentioned as indigenous in the district.

Minerals.

The geology of Azamgarh exhibits nothing beyond the ordinary Gangetic alluvium, and consequently the mineral products are but few. They are confined to the saline earths

from which saltpetre and salt are educed, to brick-earth, and to the limestone conglomerate known generically as *kankar*. Saltpetre can be educed from the *usar* soil in every pargana of the district, but in parganas Mahul, Atraulia and Mau Nathbhanjan the admixture in it of sodium chloride is much greater than elsewhere. Brick earth can be obtained in most places out of the beds of grey and yellow clay that form the subsoil, the best being in the *bangar* portion of the northern tract. Brick-making is carried on at Azamgarh and other places by private enterprise, the standard mould of $9'' \times 4\frac{1}{2}'' \times 2\frac{3}{4}''$ being in general use. Bricks are made in three qualities, the price at the kiln being Rs. 10, Rs. 8, and Rs. 5 per thousand. Some of the earth in Azamgarh is also suitable for tiles ; superior tiles made on the Goodwin pattern, when fixed in position, cost Rs. 8 per hundred square feet, while inferior tiles such as are ordinarily used for roofing purposes by the people cost Rs. 5-8-0. *Kankar* in varying quantities and in smaller or larger nodules occurs in most of the stiffer clay beds almost everywhere throughout the old alluvial uplands of the district. In some places it crops out in abundance on the surface as in the ravines, while in others it is only reached at considerable depths. Here and there, instead of being nodular, it takes the form of solid sheets of coherent rock, varying in thickness from a few inches to a foot and-a-half. Such *kankar* rocks are generally not far below the surface of the ground ; they are mostly found where the surface is depressed and liable to be flooded or saturated with water and they have not a very large continuous area. In this shape *kankar* has been used in the past for building purposes. Its use has not been observed in buildings of recent date, but in the foundations of old temples, mosques, bridges, and occasionally in the cylinders of old wells rectangular blocks of it may be seen. The small nodular *kankar*, which is more easily obtainable, is used for road metal, for concrete, and for producing lime. *Kankar* for metalling roads is procurable on the average for Rs. 3-8-0 per hundred cubic feet, while *kankar* lime varies in price according to the method of preparation ; if it is burnt with cowdung it costs Rs. 18 per hundred maunds, if with wood or charcoal, Rs. 20 for a like quantity. Sometimes

surkhi or broken brick is employed as a foundation for *kankar* metal on roads or as ballast; it costs Rs. 10 per hundred cubic feet.

Building materials.

Excepting *kankar*, there is no stone in the district, and that required for building purposes has to be imported from Chunar in Mirzapur. Plain stone for facing costs from fourteen annas to Re. 1-2-0 per cubic foot, and stone for rubble between twelve annas and a rupee per cubic foot. Stone flags of a thickness of two inches can be purchased for Rs. 12-8-0 per hundred square feet. Timber for buildings, if of good quality, is generally imported from the forests of Gorakhpur by way of Dohri-ghat. The wood usually employed is *sál* and costs Rs. 2-4-0 or Rs. 2-8-0 per cubic foot in logs. *Sál* beams, however, averaging 30 feet in length and 5 inches in thickness cost Rs. 7 or Rs. 8 each, while those which are smaller, for example, 20 feet long and 4 inches thick, cost between Rs. 3 and Rs. 5; and beams measuring 18 feet by 3 inches thick cost Rs. 2 or Rs. 3. *Sarpat* grass which grows in sandy tracts along the rivers is usually employed for thatching purposes and is procurable for about Rs. 2 for a hundred bundles, while bamboos to support the roof, which are both locally available and are also imported, can be purchased for Rs. 15 or Rs. 20 for one hundred according to quality.

Fauna.

The wild animals of the district are unimportant both as regards their actual number and the variety of species. There are none of the larger carnivora, and even wolves are scarce. Foxes and jackals, as in other districts, are abundant, and wild pigs are to be found along the lowlands of the Ghagra and the larger streams. *Nilgai* or blue bulls are occasionally met with in the scrub and *dhak* jungles, but antelope or black-buck are scarcely ever seen. No other species occur in any number and even hares are seldom to be found. Snakes, however, are numerous and are responsible for a number of deaths of human beings every year. Endeavours have been made to reduce the mortality from snake-bite by inducing landholders to remove all scrub and jungle from the proximity of their villages; but even where this is done, there are numerous bamboo clumps near every site, which harbour these pests. Game birds are somewhat rare; but water-fowl are abundant during the cold weather, when the extensive

swamps and lakes become the home of innumerable geese and duck of many varieties. Wild fowl are netted by boatmen during the winter and spring, and the dues levied by the landlords on those who practise this occupation often bring in a considerable income.

Fish. The fisheries of the district are of considerable value, and there is a large demand for fish as an article of diet on the part of the inhabitants. The usual varieties of fish common to the plains are found in the rivers and lakes, and a considerable number of people derive a subsistence from fishing, although in most cases they betake themselves to it as an employment subsidiary to agriculture. At the census of 1901, there were 5,547 persons, including dependents, returned under the heads of fishermen and fishdealers, and though this number is a large figure compared with other districts, it probably does not represent the whole number of persons engaged in this occupation. There are no fishing rights in the Ghagra, but elsewhere they are usually the property of the landholders who derive a considerable income from the lease or sale of them. In some estates the right to fish is sold for a lump sum every season, this being the usual practice in the smaller lakes and tanks. On some of the larger lakes such as the Pakri-Pewa and Salona lakes, a fee is levied for the season on every boat employed in fishing; while on the Narja lake the landholders generally divide the fish in equal shares with the fishermen daily during the fishing season, making their own arrangements for its sale. The fishing season extends from the middle of February till the beginning of the rains, when the water begins to rise in the tanks. On the large lakes fish are taken with the *bisari* or drag-net, the boats working together in fleets in water from four to five feet deep. In the smaller tanks the fish are taken with ordinary hand-nets, or are killed otherwise as the tanks gradually dry up in the spring and summer. Considerable quantities of fish are sometimes killed during the rains on the inlets through which the fish run up into the lakes from the Chhoti Sarju and other streams; and at all seasons small fish are taken with little draw-nets along the banks of both lakes and streams.

Cattle.

The domestic cattle of the district are of an inferior description and are mainly the offspring of the so-called Brahmani or dedicated bulls, which wander about the country without a master and attach themselves to different herds of cattle at pleasure. No systematic attempts have been made as yet by the Government to improve the breed of cattle in the district nor have any private individuals shewn any enterprise in this respect. The cattle used in the plough are for the most part small and deficient in strength. Besides those raised within the district, numbers are every year imported from districts to the north and west during the months of September and December by dealers who are known as *Ahirias* or *Dahirias*. A pair of ordinary plough-bullocks costs about Rs. 45; and a team of four of superior breed cost upwards of Rs. 120; and while the former will draw a load of between ten and fourteen maunds, the latter will draw three times as great a load. The cow of the district like the bullock is small and usually underfed—unless it is fortunate enough to receive exceptional treatment for the sale of its milk. But even as a milk-producer its place is largely taken by the cow-buffalo, and in some localities large numbers of the latter are to be seen. The rushes and rank grasses in the swamps and marshes of the district form excellent fodder for buffaloes, and the Ahirs who are numerous in Azamgarh derive a considerable income from the production and sale of *ghi*, which is chiefly made from buffalo milk. Altogether the cow-buffalo is a much more valuable animal than the cow; for it costs upwards of Rs. 30, while a cow can be bought for between Rs. 6 and Rs. 12. It has already been mentioned that grazing grounds are scarce and that the majority of the cattle are stall-fed. The principal dry fodders given to cattle are the stalks, called *danta*, *narai* and *pora*, of the millets *mandua*, *sanwan* and *kodon*, the straw of rice and the chaff or *bhusa* of cereals, peas and other pulses.

Cattle census.

The number of cattle in the temporarily settled portion of the district at the settlement of 1877 was returned at 616,000, of which 270,300 were said to be plough-cattle; but the returns were not accurate, and are useless for purposes of comparison.

Annual totals too were for many years supplied by the *patwaris*, but these were never checked and their value is consequently small. The first regular cattle census was taken in August 1899. On this occasion it was ascertained that there were 296,695 bulls and bullocks and 9,601 male buffaloes, giving a total of 306,296 plough animals, with an average of 2·12 animals per plough. This figure was the lowest of any district in the provinces at the time, except Bara Banki, and was considerably below the provincial average. A second census was taken in January 1904, when the number of bulls and bullocks was found to have increased to 312,388, while that of male buffaloes had fallen to 8,321. The number of ploughs, however, on this occasion was returned at 182,194, so that the number of animals per plough falls to the low proportion of 1·76. At the most recent enumeration in January 1909, there was a further increase of bulls and bullocks to 331,133 and a further decrease of bull-buffaloes to 6,558, while the number of ploughs had risen to 187,608, the resulting proportion of animals per plough being 1·80. This proportion is a very low one and the reasons for it are to be sought in the customs of the people and the nature of the cultivation; for the plough duty amounts on the average to only a little over 4 acres per plough. Rice-land requires little ploughing, while a pair of bullocks can plough considerably more than four acres of such land. On the other hand, tenants' holdings are in many cases less than four acres in extent, and those tenants who have not enough land to employ two bullocks keep only one and club with other cultivators on the plan known as *harsaj*. Again, many of those who have only an acre or less of land keep no bullocks at all, and cultivate on the plan known as *tijaria*; that is, they work for two days for another cultivator and get the use of his bullocks on a third, while they possess their own ploughs. The enumeration of 1909 also showed 199,362 cows and 259,580 young stock in the district, a marked increase being noticeable under both heads since 1904. On the other hand, the number of cow-buffaloes had fallen from 84,662 in 1899 to 82,377 in 1909, the decrease having been continuous.

Horses and ponies.

The census returns in 1909 gave a total of 3,980 horses and ponies in Azamgarh, out of which only 1,380 were horses. These

animals are in most cases as poor as the cattle, and resemble the ordinary small country-bred ponies of the plains. They suffer, like the cattle, from bad grazing, being let loose to pick up what they can, usually on the margins of tanks and lakes. No attempt has been made either by the Government or by private individuals to improve the breed, and the only good horses or ponies that are found in Azamgarh are imported from other districts, the principal places of supply being the large fairs at Sonpur in Bengal and the Dadri fair near Ballia.

Other animals.

The other domestic animals call for no special comment. In 1909 there were 208,728 goats and 71,049 sheep, the numbers being in no way remarkable. These are kept for food, for their wool and hair, and for penning on the land. The custom of penning sheep on the land, however, is by no means universal; and the practice is only resorted to if the cultivator desires a specially good crop and has the means to pay the expenses of the herdsmen. Sheep are particularly in request for sugarcane land. They usually belong to Gadariyas who travel about with them and make part of their living by penning their flocks for hire. The sheep which are reckoned in *chars* of one hundred, are driven into a field in the evening and remain on it till 9 o'clock the following morning; fees in cash or grain, ranging from one and-a-half to two annas a *char*, being paid for a night's penning. There were 4,967 donkeys in 1909 but these are of the usual wretched description and are only employed by Dhobis, Kumhars and others as beasts of burden. Mules numbered 59 and camels 137, the latter animal being rarely used in the district. Some of the wealthier landholders keep elephants but the number is not separately recorded. Only 2,609 carts were returned in Azamgarh in 1909, the number being very small compared with those of Basti and Gorakhpur, but exceeding those of the districts of the Benares division, where carts are generally scarce.

Cattle disease.

Cattle disease is at all times more or less prevalent in the district, but accurate statistics are hard to obtain. The most commonest forms are hæmorrhagic septicæmia and anthrax, though foot-and-mouth disease and rinderpest also occur. The district board maintains one peripatetic veterinary assistant and a veterinary dispen-

sary has been opened at Azamgarh; but little progress has as yet been effected either in the matter of inoculation or in arousing the people from their general apathy towards scientific treatment. For the last year on record, 1907-08, 500 inoculations against anthrax and 300 against hæmorrhagic septicæmia were carried out; while 650 sick animals were treated for contagious and non-contagious diseases. These numbers are considerably below those of many other districts in the province.

Climate. The rainy season, which constitutes the first part of the agricultural year, generally begins in the second or third week of June and lasts till the beginning of October. The first burst of the rains usually comes from the east or north-east and consists of heavy intermittent falls rather than of continuous soaking wet. Not infrequently the weather clears at once and the rain is succeeded by bright days, with a breeze from the westward. During the remainder of the rainy season the prevailing wind is easterly. At intervals, however, it veers to the west, the change during the latter part of August being regarded with some apprehension by the agriculturist ; for he believes that for every day of west wind then there will be a night of frost in January. Heavy dews form in the night during this period of the year, and the temperature of the air varies from 75° F. to 95° F. in the shade. A permanent change in the temperature is perceptible about the middle of October. The cold season may be then said to begin, and it lasts till the middle of March ; but out of this period only December and January can be spoken of as cold, for in October and March the direct rays of the sun are sometimes as trying as at any other season of the year. During the cold season the prevailing wind is westerly, but it occasionally changes to the east, when it brings damp weather. In December and January the temperature of the air ranges between 40° and 80° F., ground frosts being of occasional occurrence and injuring the field crops, especially peas and *arhar*. The damage is, as a rule, purely local, tracts or individual fields being affected while others in the same neighbourhood are untouched. Nevertheless general and destructive frosts are not unknown, and one such that occurred in January 1819 is still remembered as the *barka pala*. On this occasion the spring crops,

including barely and wheat, were so much injured that a scarcity followed, not less severe than would have been caused by a partial failure of the rainfall. In February and March the wind is generally in the west, and sometimes blows with violence. Storms too occur, and hail is generally dreaded. Hail, however, rarely does damage over an extensive area, though two storms have left a vivid impression on the minds of the people. The first took place in February 1818, when, according to tradition, it passed over a considerable portion of the district, destroying the crops utterly, the loss it caused being accentuated by the damage done by the frost of 1819. The other occurred in January 1900, and affected a large part of the district, particularly tahsils Azamgarh and Sagri. The apprehension felt by the cultivators in the ensuing cold weather after this visitation led to an extensive revival of the interesting superstition that hailstorms may be averted by fixing among the crops three up right bamboos about 8 feet high and pegged together. April, May and the first part of June are the hot dry months. The range of the thermometer during them is from 70° F. to 110° F. in the shade. During April and the early part of May west winds blow steadily during the day and the nights are comparatively cool and pleasant; but after the middle of May easterly winds prevail for several days together and these, if not so hot as the west winds, make the climate more relaxing and considerably more trying.

Records of the rainfall are available from 1861 onwards at Azamgarh, and at Deogaon, Mahul, Muhammadabad, and Jianpur, the last named place being the headquarters of tahsil Sagri, from the year 1864. A rain-gauge is now also maintained at Ghosi. According to the returns, the average total rainfall of the district for 47 years has been 40·57 inches. The local variation is but small, the extreme ranges being 41·65 inches at Azamgarh and 38·23 inches at Deogaon. The deficiency in Deogaon is possibly to be accounted for by the fact that that tahsil lies in the southern tract which is most deficient in trees; and a similar remark applies to Muhammadabad where the average rainfall is 39·91 inches. The fluctuations from year to year are not very remarkable ; and if a Rainfall.

fall of over 50 inches be regarded as marked excess, it will be found that on ten occasions during the last 47 years the rainfall has been in excess of this figure. Actually the wettest year on record was that of 1894, when the district average amounted to 67·14 inches, 81·52 inches being received at Mahul and 74·27 at Azamgarh. In no other year has the rainfall exceeded 60 inches, but in 1861, 1871, 1875, 1879, 1886, 1890, 1893, 1898 and 1899 over 50 inches were recorded. In all these cases damage was done to the crops by inundation and flooding. The highest flood recorded in recent years was that of 1871, when destructive inundations took place in the low alluvial lands of the Ghagra and Chhoti Sarju and in the valley of the Tons. By the latter, which rose far above its channel, the autumn and sugarcane crops over a large area were destroyed. Parts too of the town of Azamgarh were submerged, and this resulted in much distress. A similár flood took place in 1894, but the highest level recorded fell some two feet short of that of 1871, when the river rose 34·98 feet above its normal bed.

It must, however, be remembered that, so far as the agriculturist is concerned, the seasonable distribution of the rainfall over certain periods of the year is more important than the total amount received, the most critical period being, of course, the rainy season from June to October. Agriculturists reckon during that season by the periods which are known as *maha-nakshatrs*, and which they call *nakhats*. There are twenty-seven *nakshatrs* in the solar year, but the only ones which are widely known are those which fall within the rainy season, or immediately precede and follow it. The sixth *nakhat* corresponds roughly to the period between June 19th and the 2nd July and is known as *Adra*. The thirteenth is known as *Hast* or *Hatia* and corresponds to the period between September 24th and the 7th October. A favourable season for agriculture begins with a good fall of rain early in *Adra* and ends with a similar fall in *Hast*. The popular saying is :—

Charhat barse Adra, utrat barse Hast,
Kitno Raja dandi le, sukhi rahe girhast.

This means that if it rains at the beginning of *Adra* and the end of *Hast*, the cultivator will be happy, no matter how much of the

grain his landlord takes from him. In the two periods that follow *Adra*, namely, *Punarbas* and *Pukh* or *Chiraiya*, corresponding to the periods from the 3rd to the 16th and from the 17th to the 30th July, continuous heavy rain is deprecated, especially in *Pukh*. During *Asrekha* and *Magha*, from July 31st to August 27th, heavy rain is looked for; but in *Puraba* and *Uttara*, from August 28th to September 23rd, the cultivator longs for sunshine interspersed with days of rain. The rainfall of the *Chittra*, which runs from the 8th up to the 20th of October, is not of great importance. On the whole, during the season from *Adra* to *Hast*, neither excessive rain nor drought is wished for; but the danger of drought has apparently to be little feared in Azamgarh. Only on three occasions during the last 47 years has the rainfall been less than 25 inches, the worst year on record being 1896, when only 16 inches were recorded. On this occasion tahsils Azamgarh and Sagri fared the worst, receiving in each case but 12·80 inches: while in 1864 and 1877 rain fell to the extent of 19·74 and 18·90 inches, respectively.

Health. The climate of Azamgarh is relaxing but it is not considered by the natives of the district an unhealthy one. Though fever is undoubtedly prevalent, especially towards the end of the rainy season, and though large areas in the southern portion of the district are apt to be flooded and waterlogged, the health of the people is generally good throughout the year; epidemic disease is rare; and constitutional affections produced by the special climate of the district are nearly or altogether wanting. The state of affairs is fairly illustrated by the vital statistics, the records of which, from 1891 onwards, are given in the appendix.* From 1881 to 1890 the average number of recorded deaths was 43,814 per annum, or an average death-rate of 27·30 per mille calculated on the census returns of 1881, the highest figure being 34·94 per mille in 1886. For the ensuing decade the average number of deaths was 49,762 a year, the average rate being 29·37 per mille of the population enumerated in 1891. The rise was due to the abnormal mortality of 1894, when the rate rose to 45·40 per mille; this is attributable not only to an unprecedentedly large number

* Appendix, table III.

of deaths from fever owing to the excessive rainfall, but also to the worst outbreak of cholera that has been experienced since 1877. From 1901 to 1907 the average annual mortality was 53,136, a rate of 34·60 per mille of the population returned at the census of 1901. This result may be wholly ascribed to the fearful ravages caused by plague, this disease being accountable for over 58,000 deaths in the space of seven years. Such a visitation is accidental and the true death-rate of the district should be estimated from the average of the period prior to the appearance of this scourge. In this way a mean death-rate of 27·56 per mille is obtained, which compares favorably with the rates observed in most portions of the province and shows that the climate is generally salubrious. The returns of births are perhaps not so reliable as those of deaths, but they provide a fairly accurate index of existing conditions. From 1881 to 1890 an annual average of 56,126 births was recorded, making a rate of 34·98 per mille, and for the next ten years the figures were 50,225, the rate being 29·05 per mille. Between 1901 and 1907 the number of recorded births rose to 55,655 or 36·26 per mille, in spite of the high death-rate of that period. There have been only seven years in which the death-rate has exceeded the birth-rate. One was the year 1882 and three other occasions were in 1894, 1895, and the famine of 1897; while the remaining three years were 1905 to 1907 when, as we have seen, plague was rife. The highest birth-rate recorded was 42·89 per mille in 1902 and the lowest 21·32 in 1897.

Fever.

Another table in the appendix shews the mortality from the principal forms of disease.* From this it will be seen that fever easily heads the list as the cause of death. Allowance must be made for a certain amount of error in this connection as diagnosis is not always reliable and fever may often be mistaken as the cause of death when it is really only the symptom of the disease. It is undoubtedly true, however, that most of the mortality is attributable to actual malarial fever. According to the returns it accounted for nearly 72·34 per cent. of the recorded mortality between 1881 and 1890, and for 74·56 per

* Appendix, table IX.

cent. during the following ten years, the proportion rising in the absence of other epidemics and falling when cholera, small-pox or plague make their appearance. Between 1901 and 1907, however, only 63·87 per cent. of the annual mortality was ascribed to fever, the decrease in the proportion being due to the large number of deaths from plague. The most remarkable years were 1894 and 1897 : in the first fever was responsible for some 20,000 deaths more than the normal, and assumed a regularly epidemic character owing to the heavy rainfall and the inundation of the lowlands. In 1897 the mortality from ever rose to 52,505 and the disease played havoc during the wet season among the people, who had been debilitated by the effects of famine. A similar epidemic occurred after the scarcity of 1908.

Cholera.

Cholera is endemic in Azamgarh as in other districts situated in the eastern portion of the province, and in no single year since statistics have been kept, have deaths from this disease failed to be recorded. From 1881 to 1890 it accounted for 2,512 deaths annually or 6·16 per cent. of the total mortality, epidemics having occurred in 1881, 1882, 1885 and 1889. During the ensuing decennial period there would normally have been some improvement, only an unprecedented outbreak occurred in 1894, no less than 11,270 deaths from cholera being recorded, and the average annual mortality for the period rose to 3,516 or 6·02 per cent. Besides this, the disease carried off 10,262 persons in 1891, and both in 1892 and 1895 over 4,000 deaths were returned. Between 1901 and 1907 cholera was responsible on an average for 2,015 deaths every year, the proportion to the total mortality being 3·48 per cent. The severest visitation took place in 1906, the number of deaths being 7,184 ; but both in 1903 and 1905 the disease was rife.

Small-pox.

Small-pox is another disease which is always present in some degree, though the resultant mortality is in many years very small. From 1881 to 1890 there were some 7,461 deaths from this cause, or 1·78 per cent. of the total number recorded. Over half of these occurred in 1884, when 4,330 persons were carried off and in 1890 there was another epidemic. In the following decade the number of deaths from small-pox rose to 8,837. No less than 7,291 of these took place in the two years 1891 and 1897; and the per-

centage of the total mortality due to small-pox was 1·51. From these figures it will be seen that most of the mortality from this disease takes place in single years when it assumes the form of a violent epidemic. Since 1901 there has taken place no such epidemic, and for the period ending with 1907 only 1,370 deaths from small-pox have been recorded, a yearly average of 149 deaths and a percentage to total mortality of only ·37. There can be no doubt that the liability to small-pox has diminished during the last few years, the result being due to the remarkable increase in the popularity of vaccination. Thus between 1881 and 1891, an annual average of only 16,688 vaccinations was performed. During the next ten years the average had risen to 30,984 ; but even this number has been eclipsed during the seven years between 1901 and 1907, when the annual average was 45,727. As a result of this, the district of Azamgarh has become well protected and the immunity from the disease conferred by vaccination is well reflected in the decrease in the number of deaths attributable to it. The vaccinating staff of the district consists at present of one assistant superintendent and 23 vaccinators, maintained in 1908 at a cost of Rs. 2,875, distributed between provincial and local funds, including the municipality ; while the work of vaccination is under the supervision of the civil surgeon.

Other diseases.

Some mention has already been made of the recent ravages of plague in the district. The disease first made its appearance in 1901, one solitary case being reported. It gradually increased in intensity during 1902 and 1903 and reached its zenith in 1904 and 1905, nearly 17,000 deaths being returned in 1904. In 1906 the virulence of the disease somewhat abated, but in the following year there was a recrudescence, the mortality rising in 1907 to over 12,400. All the usual prophylactics have been tried ; inoculation has advanced recently a little in favour, but neither it nor the killing of rats have become popular, though the people have learnt by experience the advantage of evacuating their houses on the first outbreak of the disease. The other diseases are of little account. save perhaps dysentery and bowel complaints, which claim a number of victims every year. They are frequently the result of malarial fever, but the only occasion on which any

great mortality was attributed to them was in 1894—the most unhealthy year on record from every point of view.

Infirmities.

Statistics of infirmities have been collected at each enumeration held since 1872; but the figures at successive censuses vary widely and, as the difficulty of securing correct returns is very great, they are not particularly instructive. In 1901 there were 128 insane persons enumerated in the district, an increase of 30 over the figure of 1891 and of 85 as compared with the total of the preceding census. The number is larger than that of the rural districts of the Benares division but much the same as in south-eastern Oudh. Of lepers there were 259, nearly one-half of the number enumerated in 1891 but 70 in excess of the figure of 1881. There were 1,463 blind persons, this again being a remarkable decrease since 1891. Blindness is closely connected in many cases with small-pox, and the reduction in the number of persons afflicted may, in some measure, be attributed to the spread of vaccination. There remain the deaf-mutes, of whom 520 were enumerated or nearly one-half the figure of 1891. The figure is a comparatively high one, as in other districts of the Gorakhpur and Fyzabad divisions lying along the Ghagra; and its highness is possibly attributable in part to the prevalence of goitre among the inhabitants who live beside that river, the connection between goitre and cretinism being well established.

CHAPTER II.

AGRICULTURE AND COMMERCE.

The earliest statistics of cultivation available in Azamgarh are those completed between 1834 and 1837 when the settlement under Regulation IX of 1833 was carried out. Excluding tahsil Sikandarpur which was transferred to Ballia in 1879, the total area of the district was 1,251,740 acres of which 542,967 acres or 43 per cent. were under the plough. At the settlement completed in 1877, however, not only tahsil Sikandarpur but the permanently settled villages scattered over the other tahsils of the district were excluded from settlement operations, and the figures available are only those of the temporarily settled tract. It was then ascertained that 764,755 acres out of a total of 1,266,341 were under cultivation. This formed a proportion of over 56 per cent. and represented a marked rise over the returns of 1837. Complete and accurate statistics year by year are only available from 1884-85 onwards; but even these necessarily exclude the area which was transferred from Gorakhpur in 1904. Between 1885 and 1888 the cultivated area of the district averaged 834,853 acres or over 60 per cent. of the whole district, while in the ensuing decade this area fell to 799,923 acres or 58 per cent. of the total. During the first half of this period, however, the average was fully up to that of the preceding period, and it was not until the year 1895-96 that a large decrease took place. In the disastrous year of drought, 1896-97, only 593,067 were under the plough, the lowest figure ever recorded. The acreage under cultivation quickly recovered from this blow and at the recent settlement there were 838,188 acres under cultivation, the proportion to total area being over 60 per cent. The settlement figures, however, are not those of any one year, and before settlement operations had been completed the district had been increased by the transfer of villages from Gorakhpur. This increased the total area of the district to 1,414,956 acres, while the cultivated area for the four

Cultivated area.

years that have elapsed since the transfer took place has averaged 800,749 acres, or a little over 56 per cent. This percentage is the same as that of last settlement, and even this high result is in no small measure due to the enormous acreage of 848,144 acres brought under the plough in the last year of the series. The state of development varies in the different parganas. The proportion of cultivation is highest in Sagri, where it amounts to 58·91 per cent. of the whole, and next come Azamgarh with 58·88 per cent, Ghosi with 57·96 per cent, and Ahraula with 57·53 per cent. The proportion in Muhammadabad is 54·97 per cent., and the worst cultivated tahsil is Deogaon where it does not exceed 46·71 per cent.

Double-cropping.

There has been therefore no actual progress achieved during the last thirty years; nor can any progress be observed from an examination of the statistics relating to *dofasli* or double-cropped areas. The *dofasli* area is not noticed in the returns compiled at the settlement of 1877; but between 1885 and 1888 the area twice-cropped in the year amounted to 161,143 acres. From 1889 to 1898, the twice-cropped area averaged 196,230 acres; while during the four years from 1905 to 1908 the area returned has averaged 194,824 acres. Though in the last figure is included the *dofasli* area of the transferred villages, the average is considerably reduced by the low acreage twice-cropped in 1907-08, a year of deficient and ill-distributed rainfall, when, in spite of a large rise in the area of net cultivation, only 163,270 acres were *dofasli*. Normally it would appear that over 200,000 acres of cultivation are now sown twice in the year, but the fluctuations are considerable and follow the nature of the season. The area is largest in years of heavy rainfall, for in such years the *jhils* and tanks are full and irrigation can be fully utilised. Altogether some 26 per cent. of the net cultivation is twice-cropped in the year, there being little substantial difference between the tahsils. In Deogaon the proportion is 29·84 per cent. and it is 28 per cent. in Ghosi; in Ahraula, on the other hand, it is not more than 21·19 per cent. There has been therefore practically no increase in the cropped area since last settlement, the area of *dofasli* being generally smaller in those years when the net cultivation is high.

Culturable waste.

In the preceding chapter it was shewn that the barren and unculturable area averages some 23 per cent. of the whole district, and if this be added to the cultivated area there remains some 21 per cent. of culturable waste, the actual extent for the three years from 1905 to 1907 being 293,156 acres. This figure is, however, subject to some deductions. In the first place, it includes grove land which should properly be described as culturable and amounts to 25,767 acres; and secondly, 7,944 acres of land come under this head as being temporarily out of cultivation, but in course of preparation for receiving a crop of sugarcane in the following harvest. Similarly 97,074 acres of new fallow may be excluded, as such land lies waste only temporarily owing to the necessity for rotation. There remain therefore but 108,106 acres of old fallow and 54,259 acres of so-called culturable waste. The distinction between the two is often very fine, as also is that between culturable waste and barren land. Most of this class of land is of very poor quality; and now it may probably with truth be said that the limits of profitable cultivation have been reached. Much of the area, too, is not readily available for cultivation, as it consists of *dhak* jungle, sandy downs or land covered with scrub and scattered trees. Taking culturable waste and old follow together, the highest proportion is 13·67 per cent. in Ahraula, followed by 13·32 per cent. in Muhammadabad, 12·07 per cent. in Sagri, and 11·97 per cent. in Ghosi. In Azamgarh the figure is 9·63 per cent., while in Deogaon it amounts to 7·96 per cent.

Cultivation.

The methods of cultivation followed in this district present no peculiar features and differ in no way from those in vogue in other districts. The agricultural implements in use are the common drill plough, a harrow consisting of a thick plank of wood known as *henga*, the *khurpa* or hoe, and the *phaura* or spade. Manure is carefully conserved and employed, but, as a rule, it is only the fields in the immediate vicinity of the hamlet that receive sufficient manure. The great rice tracts depend altogether upon nature to renovate them, but even then but a small proportion of the area is ever left fallow. An exception may be made in the case of land prepared for sugarcane. Sugarcane is a more valuable crop than any other, and the land destined for it receives

most of the available manure. Rotation of crops is usually practised on *harjins* land. Beginning with a light *kharif* crop, or with early rice, if the land lies rather low and is suited to it, the cultivator allows the land to lie fallow after that crop is cut and prepares it for sugarcane. In the spring the sugarcane is sown, and it occupies the land all through the following summer and winter. By next spring the sugarcane is cut, and the land having been cleared lies untouched till the rains. During the rains the field is prepared for barley, which is sown in October and is cut the following spring. In the next year the land lies fallow till October, when either barley or wheat is sown; or if an early *kharif* crop is sown in the field, peas are sown as a spring crop. In the fifth year the rotation begins anew. Though this is the usual, it is not necessarily the invariable, system of rotation; but it is that which is generally recognised as giving the soil the greatest benefit. There are the usual harvests, known by the usual names. On an average, taking the figures for the three years ending in 1907, the area sown for the *kharif* or autumn harvest has been 535,337 acres, while 452,626 acres have been cultivated each year in the *rabi*, and 2,331 acres in the *zaid* or hot weather harvest. The relative position of the spring and autumn harvests varies somewhat with the nature of the season, though the fluctuations are not, as a rule, very great; it is, however, different in the different parts of the district. The *rabi* very largely preponderates in the Ghosi tahsil, but in Azamgarh, Ahraula, Muhammadabad, Sagri and above all in Deogaon the area sown with *kharif* crops largely exceeds that sown with the *rabi*. There is thus a marked difference as regards the nature of the crops grown between the north-eastern portion of the district and the rest.

Kharif crops.

Taking the district as a whole, the largest area covered by any crop in the *kharif* harvest is that occupied by rice, which for the three years ending in 1907 has averaged 276,808 acres or 51·7 per cent. of the total area cropped in this harvest. The highest proportion in any one tahsil is 60·48 per cent. in Ahraula, while both in Sagri and in Muhammadabad the figure is well above the district average. In Deogaon it closely approaches the latter amount,

but in Ghosi the proportion is 47·22 per cent, and in Azamgarh tahsil no higher than 36·11 per cent. The rice grown in the district is of many different varieties—varieties which are as numerous, according to the local saying, as the clans of Rajputs. About 58 per cent. consists of the late or transplanted rice, known generically as *jarhan* or *aghani*, which is of superior quality to the early rice, called *bhadain*. Early rice is generally sown broadcast when the rainy season has fairly commenced in June or July, the land to be sown with it having been, if possible, broken up and ploughed during the preceding dry months. The varieties known as *satha*, *sathi*, *bagri*, *nanihan*, *selha*, *deola*, and others with short fine stalks are grown chiefly on lands that are not liable to much flooding and have not a very stiff soil. *Koranga*, *dudha* and *singhawe* are sown in stiff clay soils which are moderately flooded; while long-stalked varieties such as *bhainslot* and *mansara* are grown in the depressions and old abandoned channels in the *kachhar* tract where inundation frequently occurs. The size of the grain generally corresponds with the character of the plant, the varieties with large thick straw having a large grain. The outturn of unhusked grain in favorable years in fair land is said to vary from 14 or 15 maunds per acre for the finer to 18 or 20 maunds per acre for the coarser varieties. The early rice which is grown in the sandy stretches or *dewaras* of the Ghagra is known as *sokan*. If a shower falls in the latter part of the hot weather, the land is ploughed up, sown with *sokan* and then harrowed. The seed germinates as soon as the rains come and the crop ripens in September; it does not rank high as a rice crop, though if the season is favorable the yield is large. In a few lakes and swamps, notably in Tal Salona, a rice called *dhunsi* is grown. It is put into the ground round the edges of the swamp as occasion arises in both the cold and hot weathers; the seed germinates in the beginning of the rains, and the plant, being tall and rank, suffers only when inundation is abnormal. *Dhunsi* is not one of the best varieties of rice, but, like *sokan*, its yield in favorable years is good. Rice which is reserved for transplanting is first raised in a nursery or *behnaur*, generally a small patch of ground near the hamlet which is specially reserved for this purpose and Rice.

is well manured. As soon as the rains have come and filled the *behnaur* with water, the rice seed is soaked and then sown broadcast in the *behnaur*. The young rice is ready for transplanting in about 20 days, twenty-five *sers* of seed sown in the *behnaur* giving a sufficient number of plants for an acre of land. The field which is to receive the transplanted rice is ploughed between three and five times while it is soaked with water; and the plants are dibbled in, two to six together. From the time of planting out up to the end of October, the field is kept flooded especially in land which is infected with saline matter; and the crop is generally ready for cutting at the end of November. An acre of fair land is said to yield in favorable years twenty-five maunds of grain. The varieties of transplanted rice exceed in number even the varieties of broadcast rice. Of coarse kinds the best known is *rant*, a large strong plant which grows in deep water and stands inundation well. Of the finer varieties the best known are *bansmati*, *latera*, *lejur*, *maldahi*, *ranikajar*, *koranga* and *silhi*. The hot weather marsh rice, known as *boro*, is grown in some parts of the district, where the requisite slimy soil is found in the beds of lakes or *nalas*, and where there is water available in the latter for irrigation. The chief localities are Tal Salona, Tal Narja, and Tals Patach and Ratoi. The seed is sown during December and January in a *behnaur*, and transplanting begins in February in the land close to the shore of the lake or tank; transplanting continues during March and continues as the water withdraws through evaporation. In May the crop is ready for the sickle; but, though the yield is equal to that of *jarhan* rice, the grain is said to be coarse and ill-flavoured.

Sugarcane.

The sugarcane crop has averaged between 1905 and 1907 an area of 66,139 acres or 12·35 per cent. of the *kharif* harvest. The proportion varies from 15·55 per cent. in Ghosi to 8·48 per cent. in Deogaon. This crop requires more time and labour than any other, and is the most valuable crop produced in the district. A number of varieties of sugarcane in known in Azamgarh, but those which are mostly planted are called *sarautia*, *rakswa*, *reonra*, mango and *phatnaiya*, the last being the commonest in the *kachhar* tract. The best crop of cane is expected from land which has

rested from the preceding *rabi* harvest until the time that the cane is sown, having been dug up and allowed to remain in that state all the winter. The best soil for the cane as a sugar-producer is good clean clay, especially that which is called *karail*. Before the plants are sown the land must be well dug up and ploughed. If time allows, sheep should be penned upon it ; and if the soil is loamy, clods from the bottom of a tank or swamp should be thrown upon it. The land is then repeatedly ploughed, and the soil is well manured and pulverized; but to effect this, as well as to get moisture sufficient for the germination of the crop, irrigation must generally be resorted to in the *bangar* country. Usually a little plant is preserved from the cane crop of the preceding season for seed; and the day before sowing this seed plant is cut down and, the leaves and tops being removed, it is put in water to steep for one night. It is then chopped up into pieces, locally called *painr*, *ganr* and *patanr*, each piece being about a foot long and containing three or four joints or eyes *(ankh);* and some 21,000 *patanrs* are required for an acre. In sowing, three ploughs are employed, and individual cultivators who have not the requisite number of cattle of their own club together to effect the sowing. The sower follows the second plough and drops the seed-canes lengthwise into the furrow at a distance of one foot apart, while the third plough covers them with earth. Four or five days after sowing, deep hoeing called *patanr baithawan* commences and is continued at intervals, two or three times. When the young shoots (called *poi*) have appeared, a light watering from small earthen pots is given; and this is followed by hoeing, top-dressing with manure, and harrowing; while for the rest of the season hoeing and watering must be kept up. Sugarcane is mature by the middle of January, but the cutting and pressing of it generally begin before that. The manufacture of sugar from the cane is an important industry in Azamgarh, and the description of it will be fittingly postponed till the local industries are treated.

Small millets.

The chief crops grown in Azamgarh which fall under this head are *mandua* and *kodon*; taken together, they occupy, on an average, 36,297 acres or 6·76 of the autumn harvest, the area devoted to *mandua* being over double that sown with

kodon. The proportion of *mandua* is highest in tahsil Azamgarh where it is 6·76 per cent. of the *kharif* area of the tahsil, while that of *kodon* is highest in Sagri, reaching as high as 3·6 per cent. *Mandua* is also known in the west of the district as *makra*, and has two varieties, the small and early and the large and late; but there is little difference between the two. It is sown when the rainy season has fairly set in; the field is ploughed two or three times and the seed is thrown broadcast and covered over by means of the harrow. If the crop comes up very thick, it is thinned out, the plants which are taken up being transplanted in fresh ground. Only four or five *sers* of seed go to the acre, and the yield in a fair season is between 14 and 15 maunds per acre. Consequently *mandua* is a profitable crop; and its value to the poor as an article of diet is enhanced by the fact that a cake of *mandua* flour is dry eating and very satisfying. *Kodon* does best on ground that is well raised: between six and seven *sers* are necessary to sow one acre, and a good yield is reckoned to be ten maunds. It is, however, regarded as an inferior grain; it is not used at religious ceremonies by the Hindus, and is not a popular crop because it is supposed to exhaust the soil, besides being extremely difficult to husk. Besides *mandua* and *kodon*, other small millets are grown in Azamgarh, the best known being *sawan* and *kakun*.

Indigo.

The average area under indigo for the three years ending in 1907 was, according to the returns, 18,682 acres or 3·52 per cent. of the *kharif* area. Over half this area or 10,761 acres were grown in Azamgarh tahsil; and of the remainder the largest acreage was in Ahraula; very little appears to be grown in Muhammadabad and Ghosi. The area sown with indigo has much decreased of late years; but the decline in cultivation is connected with the decline in the manufacturing industry and will be more fittingly treated of when that subject is discussed. Indigo is grown in two ways. In one of these the seed is sown with the help of irrigation in the spring and hot weather, the crop being called *jamauwa*; while in the other, the crop is sown at the beginning of the rains and is called *asarhu* or *naudha*. The *jamauwa* crop is ready in August, and the *asarhu* crop a little later; but

there is no peculiar method of cultivation adopted for either. After the crop is cut, the stumps of the plant are often left in the ground to weather the hot season as best they can : they are known as *khunti*, and the crop is ready from them at the beginning of August.

Nearly 30,000 acres or less than 6 per cent. of the autumn harvest are yearly sown with maize, the proportions ranging from 12·75 per cent. in Deogaon to less than 2 per cent. in Muhammadabad. Maize is known in Azamgarh by the names of *junhari*, *jaunheri*, and *makai*; and has three principal varieties—*chanewan*, with a small head and round yellow grain ; *girdawa*, with a large, round and white grain ; and *pirawa*, a tall plant with a flat yellow grain. As a field crop it is not sown till the rains have set in, but market gardeners raise it in the hot weather with the help of irrigation. The land is carefully prepared and deeply ploughed for maize, and manure is unsparingly employed. From three to four *sers* of seeds are necessary for one acre of land; and the crops ripen in September and October, the outturn being about twelve maunds per acre. Maize flourishes best in a season of gentle and regular rain, but in Azamgarh it is not a very certain crop: it is liable to blight and requires much watching to protect it from the ravages of birds and beasts. Maize.

The other *kharif* crops grown in Azamgarh are not of much importance. Some 5,200 acres are annually occupied by the small pulses—*urd*, *mung*, and *moth*. *Til* or oil-seed is often intermixed with other early *kharif* crops but is hardly ever grown alone ; and the area devoted to cotton is insignificant. The great millets, *juar* and *bajra*, and the pulse *arhar*, which are usually found intermixed with them, occupy between them barely 4,500 acres annually, an area the smallness of which is especially remarkable when compared with the districts of the Doab. The fibre crops, *san* and *patsan*, deserve a passing notice. *Patsan* is grown throughout the district by cultivators of all castes round the edges of their sugarcane fields ; while *san* is sown by itself in little plots. The area under both is small, and the fibre produced is only sufficient for home requirements. Other *kharif* crops.

Rabi crops.

In the *rabi* harvest the lead is taken by barley. This crop, when sown by itself, covers, on an average, 177,605 acres or 39 per cent. of the area sown in the *rabi*. The proportion varies in different parts of the district, for whereas in Deogaon it rises as high as 57·45 per cent., it is only 25·73 per cent. in Ghosi. In Azamgarh also the proportion is over 50 per cent.; while in Muhammadabad and Ahraula it is 40 and 37 per cent., respectively, and 28·59 per cent. in Sagri. In Sagri and Ghosi the place of barley is taken by wheat intermixed with gram or barley ; but neither here nor in the other tahsils is wheat grown to a large extent alone, the proportion for the whole district being only 4 per cent. The area of wheat intermixed with gram or with barley averages 69,752 acres or 15·20 per cent. of the total area cropped in the spring, the proportion varying from 25 per cent. in Sagri to only 6 per cent. in Deogaon. In addition to the large area grown with barley alone and barley intermixed with wheat, there is an average area of 26,913 acres or 6 per cent. of the *rabi* harvest covered with barley in combination with peas, the mixture being known as *jau-kirao*. Peas which constitute an important item in the food supply of the poorer classes by themselves cover, on an average, 111,726 acres or 25 per cent of the *rabi* area. As in the case of barley there is a marked difference between the tahsils as regards the area sown with peas ; for in Muhammadabad and Ghosi 36 per cent. of the *rabi* harvest is devoted to this crop, compared with less than 14 per cent. in Deogaon and 16·57 per cent. in Azamgarh : in Sagri and Ahraula the proportion approaches the district average. The mode of cultivating wheat and barley is the same in Azamgarh as in other districts ; the land is ploughed during the rainy season as often as the weather permits, and the crop is watered once when the plants appear above the ground. Between 60 and 80 *sers* of seed are necessary to sow one acre ; and the outturn of barley on average land is estimated to be some 25 maunds per acre, that of wheat being one-fifth less. This better outturn of barley is the chief reason for the preference for it over wheat ; barley-meal, too, is universally eaten, and to the agriculturist who keeps as much of his grain as he can for his own use, while he raises money for cash payments

from his sugar produce, a larger outturn is a consideration. There are two kinds of wheat, the red and the white, the latter being known as *daudi*; but there is only one variety of barley known. When barley is mixed with peas, no standard proportion of intermixture is adopted; in good land the proportion of barley is larger and in poor land the proportion of peas. There are several varieties of peas in Azamgarh; two are white and two are of a brownish hue. Of the white varieties the larger is known as *kabuli* or *barki kirao* and the smaller as *patnei*; and of the brown varieties the larger is called *burhia* or *mattar*, while the smaller is called *sujhai* or *rajmahali*. The land to be sown with peas needs less preparation than that reserved for barley; and the produce is estimated to be about 32 maunds per acre from about 60 *sers* of seed. Gram is little grown in Azamgarh, the average area for the district being 12,460 acres, mostly in Ahraula and Muhammadabad: this is less than 3 per cent. of the *rabi* area, but in addition to this there are usually some 12,500 acres of barley and gram intermixed. Mention may also be made of poppy cultivation, rather on account of its intrinsic value than of its actual extent. The total area averages some 6,300 acres and is distributed over all tahsils, though the figures for Azamgarh and Deogaon tahsils are comparatively small: the largest acreages are recorded in Ghosi and Ahraula. Other *rabi* products include linseed (*alsi* or *tisi*), *masur* or lentils, and small amounts of tobacco, *pan*, potatoes, ginger, cucumbers, and other garden crops. Market gardening is of no great importance in this district, owing chiefly to the absence of large towns.

Zaid crops.

The various crops grown in the *zaid* or intermediate harvest call for little comment. They consist principally of the early millet known as *chena*, which covers some 727 acres; melons which are grown on the sandy banks of the rivers and average 512 acres in area; the hot weather rice, called *boro*, which has been already alluded to; and various food and non-food crops in small areas.

Irrigation.

Though the comparative immunity of Azamgarh from famine is primarily the result of the regular rainfall it receives, it may also be in no small measure assigned to the existence of facilities for irrigation. There is no difference between the tahsils in this re-

spect ; all are well provided and all practise irrigation extensively. Moreover the district is better protected than at first sight appears, for in the *kachhar* tracts of Sagri and Ghosi the subsoil is so porous that even in the hottest months the crops are sufficiently supplied with moisture by capillary attraction. A comparison of recent statistics with those of former years is impracticable, inasmuch as it was formerly the custom to record as irrigated all the land that was within reach of water. Thus at the last settlement in 1877 no less than 90 per cent. of the cultivated area was so recorded. The old figures moreover included the rice lands which are no longer treated as irrigated. In these the water is retained by the erection of low embankments round the fields, so that this form of irrigation depends solely on the monsoon and is in no sense a precaution against drought, but rather the retention on the land of the seasonal rainfall. Actual figures of irrigation are available from 1885 onwards. For the ten years ending in 1894 the average area irrigated was 491,267 acres or 58·27 of the net cultivation the maximum being 519, 550 acres or 60·71 per cent. in 1891-92, and the minimum 379,220 acres or 45·43 per cent. in 1886-87. For the succeeding decade from 1895 to 1904 the irrigated area averaged 465,332 acres or 61·31 per cent. of the area cultivated, so that though the area irrigated is actually less its proportion to cultivation has risen mainly owing to the decrease in the cultivated area in 1896-97 and the years following the famine. During the four years that have elapsed since the area of the district was increased by the transfer of village from Gorakhpur, the irrigated area has averaged 465,162 acres or 58·09 per cent. of that cultivated—a high proportion considering that in so large a tract irrigation is normally not required. The capacity of the district may be estimated in some measure from the fact that in 1892 and again in 1900, when the tanks of the district were full, over 63 per cent. of the total cultivation received artificial watering, whereas in the dry year of 1907-08, the maximum area irrigated was only 51·79 per cent. of a record area of cultivation. Among the different tahsils, Ghosi comes first with an average of nearly 67 per cent. of the cultivated area irrigated, while Azamgarh has a proportion of 64·44 per cent.: elsewhere the percentage closely approaches the

district average. It is reckoned that only seven per cent. of the *bangar* portion of the district is absolutely incapable of irrigation.

Sources of supply.

Turning to the sources from which the irrigation is derived, we find that in the district as a whole wells are by far the most important. This is the more satisfactory as wells constitute a more reliable source of supply than the tanks, the swamps and the streams, all of which are liable to fail in seasons when water is most required. The position too has improved of late years, for whereas from 1885 to 1894, the irrigation obtained from wells was 52·9 per cent. of the whole, leaving 47·1 per cent. supplied from other sources, in the ensuing decade the returns show that 58·4 per cent. of the area obtaining irrigation was served by wells, 27·4 per cent. from tanks, and 14·2 per cent. from other sources ; while between 1905 and 1908 no less than 64·3 per cent. of the area irrigated was watered from wells and 35· 7 per cent. from other sources. Actually the highest area of well irrigation is to be found in Azamgarh, the proportion being 68·49 per cent. ; while in Sagri it exceeds 65 per cent. Elsewhere, except in Deogaon where only 38·46 per cent. of the irrigation is carried on from wells, the proportion varies from 53 to 57 per cent. In the southern parganas that make up the tahsil of Deogaon the proportion of well irrigation is lower than in the north owing to the greater use made there of tanks and natural reservoirs.

Wells.

Wells can be constructed in most parts of the district, and the only matter that causes difficulty is the sandy nature of the subsoil in portions of the *bangar* and in the *kachhar* tract. The depth at which water is found varies in different portions of the district. In the northern *bangar* tract water is generally found in the dry months at 15 feet from the surface of the ground, though it lies at a greater depth in the land near the main streams. In the *kachhar* the average depth is not more than 10 feet ; while in the southern tract water is met with at 18 or 20 feet from the surface. Irrigation wells vary in their water supply according as they strike a spring or are filled by lateral filtration. The latter as a rule are very soon exhausted, and as one or more beds of sand or light earth must be traversed before spring level is reached, they are liable to fall in during the rains, unless they are lined with

masonry. Masonry wells are generally sunk till a spring or *musara* is struck, and when intended for irrigation are almost always made of kiln-burnt bricks set in mud cement ; very rarely is calcareous cement used, except at the top of the shaft near the surface of the ground. Occasionally wells are to be seen lined with thick circular hoops of kiln-burnt earthernware, called *kothis*, the pieces of which are fitted to each other by a rough mortise ; but as the shaft of wells of this description cannot be sunk through the strata, the hoops being simply set up round the pit of the well, such wells have little depth and are made chiefly to supply drinking water. The cost of making a masonry well depends upon the depth to which it must be sunk and the character of the strata ; but the average cost varies from Rs. 50 to Rs. 100 for a lever well and Rs. 100 to Rs. 150 for a bucket well. Earthen wells can be made in almost all parts of the district, though the facility with which they can be constructed necessarily varies. Where the strata of the subsoil is firm, the shaft is not strengthened in any way ; but when beds of sand are struck, it is necessary to line the shaft. This is generally done with a thick cable, called *binr*, of *arhar* or tamarisk stalks or of long thatching grass. The cable is coiled round the inside of the well over the stratum that threatens to give way and generally retains its position for the short period for which it is required. The number of masonry wells in Azamgarh is very large and has a constant tendency to increase. The number in existence in 1877 and still working in 1907 was about 18,000 ; while some 11,000 new ones were constructed during the period, about 6,000 having been made by proprietors and about 5,000 by tenants. Earthen wells are almost invariably made for a single season only according to requirements and fall in during the following season. It is not instructive therefore to compare their number at fixed periods. But the year 1907-08 may be taken as indicative of the extent to which the district is protected by wells in a year of drought. In that year, while only 41,680 acres were watered from other sources as against an average of over 200,000 acres, no less than 397,555 acres derived their irrigation from wells as compared with a normal area of some 266,000 acres. According to the returns 26,510 masonry wells and 11,193

earthern wells were utilised for irrigation purposes during that year.

Methods of working.

Wells are worked after several different methods. The most common is that known as the *dhenkal* or lever, which consists of a long pole, with a lump of mud on the thicker end to act as a weight, while at the other is an earthenware pot suspended by a rope. The pole is set upon a strong support which is fixed in the ground at a distance of a few feet from the well, the upper end being forked and holding the axle on which the pole turns. The labourer who works the lever stands with his back to it, upon a plank which is laid across the well in such a manner as to leave a space for the passage of the pot between it and the well. Pulling down the lever by the rope, he lowers the pot through the space into the well, and allowing it when filled to rise by the action of the lever, empties the water into the watercourse at the top of the well. The pot usually contains somewhat less than two gallons of water, and as many as four levers may be seen going at the same time. Rapidity of working depends on the depth of the well, but on an average the lever can be lowered and raised more than three times a minute. In this fashion only the seventh or eighth part of an acre can be irrigated with one lever in a day, for when the *dhenkal* is used more water is lost by evaporation and absorption than when other methods are employed which make a larger and faster stream of water in the distributing channels. Two men are required in the process of irrigation with the *dhenkal*, one for raising the water and the other for guiding it; but when two or more levers are at work, the expenses are naturally reduced; for only one man is required to distribute the water, no matter how many levers are at work, and while it takes one lever and two men seven or eight days to irrigate one acre, it takes four levers and five men only two days. The ordinary rate of pay is about three pounds of coarse grain, worth an anna or an anna and-a-half, for a full day's work. The *dhenkal* can be advantageously employed only when water is not more than fifteen or sixteen feet from the surface. Consequently this method of irrigation prevails in the northern division of the district; and the same applies to the *charkhi*. The *charkhi* is a broad open

pulley fitted upon supports over the well: over it runs a rope, to each end of which an earthenware pot or *kund* is attached. The labourer stands on a plank (*sardar*) over the well, and forcing down one end of the rope, he brings up the other with the vessel full of water. The labour is more severe than in lever irrigation; but the number of hands employed and the average area irrigated are much the same in both methods. In the case of the deeper wells, such as those which prevail in the southern portion of the district, irrigation is generally carried on by means of a leathern bucket or *pur*, drawn by oxen. The bucket is attached to a rope which runs over a pulley fixed on supports on the top of the well and is drawn up by a pair of bullocks driven down an incline. Under this system three labourers are required, one to drive the bullocks, one to empty the bucket, and the third to distribute the water, so that the expense is greater. On the other hand, the *pur* or bucket holds 14 or 15 gallons of water and as much as half an acre can be irrigated in a day by means of it. At the same time the large quantity of water removed is apt to exhaust the well, unless it is a particularly good one; and work has to be stopped till it refills. In some cases bullocks are replaced by human labour, and the method is then known as *gharra*. A complete *gharra* party consists of eleven labourers; six are at one time in the yoke, one is employed to empty the bucket, and another to distribute the water, while three are held in relief. This method is rather more rapid than when the *pur* is drawn by bullocks; for the bucket can be raised and emptied three times in two minutes. On an average between one-half and three-quarters of an acre can be irrigated in one day. Though irrigation with the bucket is certainly as cheap and perhaps a little cheaper than irrigation with the lever, the latter is more suited to the means and habits of the petty cultivator and is generally preferred.

Tanks.

Azamgarh contains a very large number of artificial tanks for irrigation purposes, and many of them are of considerable age. The more recently constructed tanks are rarely used for this purpose, being reserved for bathing and the watering of cattle. The construction of many of the older tanks is ascribed to Soiris and Rajbhars, and these usually cover several acres; but the newer

ones rarely cover more than an acre, banks and all. Their depth also varies both at the time of construction and with their age. They are rarely carried deeper than twenty feet and are of square or oblong shape, with usually a *kachcha* well reaching to the spring level in the centre. The earth removed in excavation is thrown round them in high banks or mounds, so that in the southern portion of the district, where the country is open and the view is not interrupted by groves and trees, these mounds become conspicuous features in the landscape, occasionally looking like old mud forts. Two or three openings are generally left at the corners, not only to allow the water to be taken out, but also to allow a certain amount of the surface water of the neighbouring lands to run into them during the rainy season. The water is generally baled out of the tank by means of a *dauri*, a round shallow basket made of wicker work or bamboo-matting. Attached to the basket are four strings, one of which is held in either hand by two labourers, who stand opposite to each other on either side of the baling station or *bodar*. The basket is swung between the men, being carried above the water in the back stroke, and into it in the forward stroke. In finishing the latter, the labourers bring the basket up with a jerk, which throws the water that the basket carries with it on to the top of the lift. Fully two gallons of water are brought up at each stroke, and from twenty to twenty-five strokes are made in the minute, according to the height at which the water has to be jerked. The number of lifts is proportioned to the elevation above the tank at which the fields to be irrigated lie ; and sometimes, along the streams with deep-cut channels, four and five lifting stations may be seen. The labour is somewhat arduous, and, as a rule, two pairs of labourers with two baskets are kept working at each lift, and two pairs are allowed as a relief party. In this manner about half an acre can be irrigated daily, the cost varying according to the number of lifts and other circumstances. Another mode of irrigation employed in swamps and tanks is known *don*. The *don* consists of the trunk of a tree hollowed out into a trough, one end being blocked and the other open. It is placed on a ridge with the closed end projecting over the water and attached to a lever by rope. The

labourer sinks the closed end till it fills with water, and then helping the lever to raise it, shoots the water which it contains into the waterway. The method can only be used in certain localities and is not a very common one.

Other sources.

Other sources of irrigation are the natural *jhils*, swamps, and smaller watercourses. The Ghagra and the larger streams are not commonly employed for this purpose; and even the smaller watercourses are not used when they fall much below the level of the surrounding country. But in the upper parts of their courses, when they are still in the swamp stage or their beds are little below the surface of the country, the minor streams and *nalas* of Azamgarh are most important sources of irrigation. Embankments are thrown across them at intervals, and water is stored along their whole course for the use of the lands through which they pass. Within the bounds of each there is a fixed number of main irrigation inlets (*pains*) or stations (*bodars*) for raising water; and irrigation from the reservoirs is carried on in the same way as from tanks. The only other irrigation work that calls for mention is the *lat*. The *lat* is a long, straight or curved embankment thrown across a plain on which rice land is cultivated and there is a flow of surplus water. The earth with which the embankment is formed is dug from the inner side, and a moat of some depth is thus formed. Not only is the surface drainage collected in the moat, but, the flow being stopped by the embankment, the cultivated land in front of it is kept flooded. The area that can be irrigated from an ordinary *lat* in seasons of unsteady rainfall is not great; but in normal years *lats* help to equalize the water-supply of the whole area within their influence.

Famines.

With a stable rainfall and excellent means of irrigation Azamgarh has seldom been visited by famines of any great intensity, though it has not wholly escaped the more serious calamities of this nature which have fallen upon the United Provinces and Bengal. Of early famines there are no records extant; but writing in 1877, Mr. Reid, the settlement officer, stated that during the past hundred years, so far as he could ascertain, there had been no such calamity as is understood by a famine. Of droughts, however, which stopped short of actual famine, there was some

memory among the people. Thus the great *Chalisa* of 1783 was still remembered, and in one town at least, namely Mau, deaths from starvation were said to have taken place. One Mirza Ata Beg was *Chakladar* of Azamgarh at the time, and a mosque and wells in the town of Kopaganj are pointed out, which he had caused to be made in order to give employment to the poor of the place. Wheat sold in Kopaganj market at 14 *sers* for the rupee—an unprecedented rate for those days doubtless, but not one that is indicative of absolute dearth. Neither regarding the year 1804 nor 1837-38 is there any record or any memory among the people. Even in 1868-69 the *kharif* crops were to some extent preserved by the help of irrigation, while the outturn of the *rabi* was between one-half and three-quarters of the average. High prices, however, ruled in 1869 and discovered some distress, as a result of which it was found necessary to open poorhouses and dispense charitable relief. A daily average of 148 persons was thus relieved in Azamgarh between September 1st and December 7th, 1869. Some distress among the poor in Azamgarh and other towns was produced by the scarcity of 1873-74; but the district escaped as usual for more lightly than its neighbours, and the only measure of relief called for was the distribution of charitable relief.

There was greater distress in Azamgarh during the famine of 1877-78, but at no time were the conditions so bad as in other districts. The rainfall was late in starting and was seriously deficient in every month of the monsoon. Some beneficial rain fell in the early part of September; but on the 8th of that month the wind veered to the west and continued to blow with great violence and with damaging results to the irrigated crops. The area sown for the autumn harvest was only about half the normal, and the outturn on this was very small, the rice crop being nearly an entire failure. Good rain fell again in October and a large area was sown with *rabi* seed; but the winter was marked by extremes of temperature, and the crop was damaged by hail-storms, high winds and rust. The failure of the *kharif* crops was severely felt in Azamgarh especially in Sagri, Mau, Ghosi and Muhammadabad, as prices rose to an unprecedented height; but the distress did not become acute until the beginning of January. On January 13th, 1878, Famine of 1877-78.

relief works were opened. The periods of reatest distress were January and February, the daily average of persons attending the works being 1,440 and 3,603, respectively ; but the ripening of the spring crop gradually brought the period to a close on April 16th, when all works were closed. At the end of May signs of distress again made their appearance and work was recommenced on June 3rd, while a poorhouse was opened at Azamgarh on June 25th. The attendance during June was never high, and as the weather had become favourable by July 21st for agricultural operations, all relief works were again closed, the weekly labourers were transferred to the poorhouse for light work near the poorhouses, and additional accommodation was provided for such by the opening of additional poorhouses at Sagri, Mau and Muhammadabad. In these relief work was provided for the inmates until September 27th, but the central poorhouse remained open till October 24th, 1878. Altogether 138,294 units were relieved between January and April, and 38,435 between June and September on relief works ; while 52,328 were gratuitously relieved in the poorhouses. On the whole Azamgarh was but slightly affected by this famine.

Famine of 1896-97.

The famine of 1896-97 was severely felt in parts of the district, and the acuteness of the distress was increased by the fact that bad seasons had prevailed during the three preceding years. The autumn harvest of 1896, the winter rice crop, was an almost total failure, while the early rice only yielded a three-anna outturn. Nearly 80 per cent. of a normal area was sown in the *rabi*, the yield being five-eighths of the normal. A complete and instructive change came over the district between September and January. At the end of September Sagri was the tahsil which caused most anxiety. The *kharif* had failed to a large extent, except in parts of pargana Natthupur, and credit seemed paralysed. Deogaon, on the contrary, having obtained a better early *kharif* crop, especially of millets and maize, and being largely cultivated by small proprietors whose credit was still good, appeared to be the best tahsil in the district. By the end of January the state of affairs had been reversed ; the *rabi* crops had germinated well in Sagri, and credit had been restored there.

Irrigation had given much employment and there was comparatively little distress in this part of the district. In the south, on the contrary, the comparatively small area of the *rabi*, its poor promise, and the rapid contraction of credit, which was occasioned by the complete loss of the winter rice crops, rendered it impossible for the petty landholder to pay up the *kharif* revenue, and rapidly changed Deogaon into the worst instead of the best tahsil in the district. Several test works were opened in October, but only one attracted a large number of workers. This was due in part to the fact that a branch line from Turtipar to Azamgarh on the Bengal and North-Western railway was under construction and was giving employment to between six and eight thousand persons. It was not till December that works on what are known as the intermediate system were taken in hand in the tahsils which were unaffected by the railway works. On January 29th, 1897, at a conference held at Azamgarh, His Honour the Lieutenant-Governor declared tahsils Azamgarh, Muhammadabad and Deogaon to be distressed, and all intermediate works in those areas were converted into relief works under the Famine Code. Two months later, owing to the slackening of the pressure, these works were again converted into intermediate works ; but it was not until August 4th that the last was finally closed. The total number of units relieved on works under the control of the Public Works department was 939,573, the highest figure reached on any one day being 10,912 on June 9th, 1897. Owing to the failure of the early rice, a poorhouse had been opened by private subscription as early as August 1896. In September some outdoor relief was also dispensed and in October the poorhouse was converted in one managed on the Famine Code plan. This poorhouse was taken over by the Government on November 1st ; and during the course of the same month other poorhouses were opened at Mau, Jianpur and Ahraula, two more being added to the number at Deogaon and Dohrighat in January 1897. These institutions provided for the relief of a daily average of 1,017 persons while they were open ; but those at Azamgarh, Ahraula and Dohrighat were closed during May, while the rest remained open till the first week in September. Gratuitous relief to the people

in their own homes was distributed from December 1896 onwards. The number of the recipients increased largely after the official declaration of distress in January, but it was subsequently reduced as the spring harvest was gathered in. As the year wore on, however, there was a brisk rise in prices owing to the export of grain from the district and the recipients of gratuitous relief again increased. The total number of units gratuitously relieved was returned at 1,630,000, the highest number on any one day being 22,407 on July 10th, 1897. The cost of relief operations under the control of the Public Works department amounted to Rs. 1,05,679. In addition to this Rs. 3,836 were spent by the district board on test and intermediate works; Rs. 85,000 were distributed in gratuitous relief; Rs. 24,000 were expended in poorhouses; and Rs. 15,000 in erecting temporary houses. As indirect measures of relief Rs. 68,537 were advanced in loans for the construction of wells, purchase of seed, bullocks and similar objects, while six and a half lakhs of land revenue were suspended, of which half was ultimately remitted and half collected in four separate instalments. Lastly, a sum of Rs. 7,200 raised by private subscriptions and of Rs. 57,500 contributed by the provincial committee of the Charitable Relief Fund, or Rs. 64,700 in all were expended in feeding indigent but respectable persons in the towns and in helping impoverished cultivators to purchase seed and cattle, when agricultural operations had again become possible.

Scarcity of 1907-08.

Severe famine prevailed over a large part of the United Provinces in 1907-08, but Azamgarh was little affected. The rainfall was very deficient it is true, and there was considerable failure of the rice crop, the outturn being only 26 per cent. of the normal; but an unprecedented area was irrigated from wells in the *rabi* harvest, and the outturn was ultimately found to be even a little in excess of the normal. No large relief works under the control of the Public Works department were found necessary, but some small works were opened under the management of the civil authorities, relief was distributed to the poor in their own homes, and a poorhouse was established in the early months of 1908. Altogether Rs. 1,00,158 were spent by the Government in direct measures of relief; but Rs. 2,95,165 of the *kharif*

instalment of land revenue were suspended and Rs. 1,00,442 remitted, while no less than Rs. 4,66,965 were advanced in loans for the purchase of seed and cattle and the construction of wells. The district in no small measure owes the immunity it enjoyed from famine to the latter sum.

Prices.

The earliest record of prices available in Azamgarh is for the year 1857-58. The season was itself a bad one and matters were hardly improved by the disturbances connected with the Mutiny. In that year wheat sold on the average at 16 *sers*, barley at 20½ *sers*, peas at 23¾ *sers*, gram at 16¼ *sers*, and husked rice at nearly 11 *sers* per rupee. During the ensuing decade from 1859 to 1868, prices ruled generally low, the averages being 16 *sers* 14 *chhatanks* for rice, 20 *sers* 4 *chhatanks* for wheat, 26 *sers* 11 *chhatanks* for barley, and 28 *sers* 12 *chhatanks* for peas. Prices appear to have taken an upward tendency about the year 1865, for those ruling in the latter part of the decade were distinctly higher than those prevailing in the former. Apart from temporary fluctuations caused by the variation in the nature of the seasons, it seems that prices remained practically stationary for a period of about twenty years, though there was a fall in those of barley and gram about 1883. From 1869 to 1870, rice sold on an average at 16 *sers*, wheat at 17·32 *sers*, barley at 19·52 *sers*, and gram at 20·29 *sers* for the rupee, compared with 15·29 *sers* for rice, 17·23 *sers* for wheat, 25·16 *sers* for barley, and 21·69 *sers* for gram between 1879 and 1888. About 1886 prices rose to a marked extent throughout northern India, the phenomenon being ascribed to widespread economic causes, among which the fall in the value of silver, the development of communication and the growth of export trade are the most important. The rise was sudden at the beginning; but in spite of small fluctuations prices have never shewn any tendency to revert to the level they kept before the rise took place. Its extent may be gauged from the available returns, which show that between 1889 and 1898 the average price of rice was 12·25 *sers* to the rupee, of wheat 12·71 *sers*, of barley 17·41 *sers*, and of gram 16·46 *sers*, these being the chief food grains produced or consumed in the district. The period was remarkable

for the famine of 1896-97, which had a great effect on local prices, and consequently the average is somewhat vitiated. The upward tendency was to some extent checked by the subsequent years of prosperity, but the last period on record, that from 1899 to 1908, has been marked by no less than three seasons in which either scarcity or famine prevailed over portions of the province, and the averages have been much disturbed. The figures for the ten years ending in 1908 were rice, 10·83 *sers* ; wheat, 12·73 *sers* ; barley, 17·95 *sers* ; and gram, 15·85 *sers*. A comparison of these figures with those obtaining between 1859 and 1868 shows that the prices of the common food-grains have risen some forty per cent. during the last forty years; and this approximates to the rise found in other districts of the province.

Wages.

It is very difficult to determine the change in daily wages. These differ in the towns and villages, being generally higher in the former ; while rates vary further according to the nature of the work, even in the case of field labourers. Moreover the latter are usually paid in grain, and no fixed scale is in force in the district. The cash value of the remuneration given to ploughmen is estimated to be between 1½ to 2 annas a day. The village servants such as the carpenter, blacksmith, barber and washerman receive fixed allowances, partly in cash and partly in grain from the agriculturists. The offices of carpenter and blacksmith are often held by the same person ; and his chief duties are to keep the sugarcane press in repair and to make and repair ploughs. For keeping the press in repair he receives in each season fees known as *kolhawan* and *pacharawan* which amount to about Re 1-4-0 ; while for making and repairing ploughs and yokes, wood for which is supplied him, his various petty fees amount to about five annas a year per plough. The blacksmith, for making and repairing ploughshares and hoes, receives fees called *acharawan*, valued at about two annas per plough a year. The barber and washerman each receive remuneration valued at about five annas a year for every married woman and for every beard in the family, in addition to presents at births and marriages. So far as the prices of grain have risen, the wages or portion thereof paid in kind have increased at the same time,

owing to the greater value of the remuneration; but it is only where cash wages are paid that the increase can be appreciated. In 1882, Kahars or bearers received 4 or 5 annas; carpenters $2\frac{1}{2}$ to 4 annas; blacksmiths and masons $2\frac{1}{2}$ to 4 annas; coolies $1\frac{1}{2}$ to 3 annas; and diggers 2 annas. At the present time coolies obtain the same wage, but diggers obtain on an average $2\frac{1}{2}$ annas; the wages of bearers vary between 2 and 5 annas; while those of skilled labourers, such as carpenters, masons and blacksmiths, have risen to between 3 and 5 annas a day, or to an even higher rate if they are specially skilful. In light labour, such as weeding and carrying earth, women and children are employed as well as men; their wages are on an average two-thirds of those given to men.

Weights and measures.

The weights and measures in use in Azamgarh present several peculiarities, being in many respects different from those in vogue in the western districts of the United Provinces. The Government standards are, it is true, very frequently employed, and their use is becoming more general with the development of communications and of trade with other parts of India. The unit with which villagers work is the *ganda;* this signifies four. Thus they speak of four *gandas* of *kauris*, that is, sixteen *kauris*, or five *gandas* of rupees, that is, twenty-five rupees; and they speak of pice as selling at so many *gandas* to the rupee. The *ganda* of rupees is the unit of weight. Formerly the rupee in general use was the Lucknow or *Sicca* rupee, and it is still occasionally used by Sonars; but at the present day the Government rupee is used and is known as the *Latsahi.* A *ser* of so many *gandas* therefore means a *ser* which is equivalent to so many sets of four rupees. Now hardware, metal, cotton thread, spices and similar articles are commonly sold by a local *ser* which contains 21 or 22 *gandas*, that is, which is equivalent to 84 or 88 *tolas.* Grain is sold retail either by a local *ser* of 24, 26 or $26\frac{1}{4}$ *gandas*; while when grain is sold wholesale, local *sers* of 28, $29\frac{1}{2}$, 30 and even 32 *gandas* are employed. The wholesale weight used in the sugar trade is a *ser* of $26\frac{1}{4}$ *gandas.* The standard revenue *bigha* in all the temporarily-settled parts of Azamgarh, excluding tappas Shahpur, Burdah, Kuba, Shah-

Salempur, and Chaudri of pargana Deogaon contains 2,730·0625 square yards or ·564 of an acre. The chain or *jarib* is now made up of 20 *lathas*, each *latha* being $94\frac{1}{20}$ inches in length. Formerly the Azamgarh *jarib* was divided into 19 *lathas* of 99 inches each in length, but this was changed into 20 for convenience of calculation. In the permanently-settled estates and in the tappas already mentioned the *bigha* in use is the regulation *bigha* of the Benares province and contains 3,136 square yards or ·648 of an acre, the *jarib* being divided into 20 *lathas* of $100\frac{8}{10}$ inches each. Owing to the great subdivision of land in Azamgarh, the fractions of the rupee used to express proprietary interests are very numerous and minute. It would be impossible to give an exhaustive list of these; but the system on which shares are calculated may be generally indicated. The rupee and anna are invariably at the top of the scale; but the anna is divided differently according to local custom. In many cases there are the usual 12 pies, further subdivided into *kauris*, *dants* and *kants*; in others the anna is divided into *gandas*, *kauris*, *dants* and *kants*. Sometimes pies are subdivided into *kirants*, *rens* and *phens*; and at others into *bats* and *sats*; while *ruas*, *bhuas* and *jaus* are found as subdivisions of the *ganda*. Where the *bighadam* system is adopted the *bigha* is subdivided into 20 *biswas*, the *biswa* into 20 *dhurs*, and the *dhur* into 20 *phens*. Mr. Reid in 1877 enumerated 65 different methods of expressing the extent of proprietary interest in land, the smallest being the subdivision of the rupee into 972,000,000 *ruas*.

Interest. The *mahajan* or money-lender is indispensable to the agriculturist in Azamgarh, for the latter's great money-yielding crop is sugarcane; such money as he wants at other seasons than at that in which this crop is ready, the agriculturist borrows from the *mahajan*. The rate of interest charged for a loan is nominally 25 per cent. or *siwai*, but it in reality works out to more. Accounts are settled in the summer or autumn, usually after the refined sugar of the year has been disposed of. Any balance then remaining in the *mahajan's* favour is debited as a fresh advance. Upon this and upon cash payments made during the succeeding season the *mahajan* assesses interest at the rate of 25 per cent., credit, of course, being given by him at the same rate for the value of all

produce made over to him. The price rate, however, at which the *mahajan* values his client's sugar produce is not the full price rate of the open market at the time of delivery. He makes a deduction of between 5 and 10 per cent. from the market rate, and moreover he weighs the produce at delivery considerably to his own advantage. His weight is known in consequence as the *lagarahi panseri.* In the case of ordinary grain, however, which the agriculturist sells to the *mahajan*, the terms are not quite so hard. The nominal rate of interest on debts secured by bond but not connected with agricultural produce, varies from 12 to 36 per cent. according to the value of the security. But in addition to the nominal interest most money-dealers make additional charges under such names as *nazrana* and *dalali.* In mortgages in which possession is given to the mortgagee, the ordinary rate charged is 12 to 18 per cent. Four and a half per cent. is considered a fair return by money-lenders who invest their money in land.

Banks.

With the exception of a branch of the Kayastha Bank which has recently been started, there are no large banks or money-lending firms in Azamgarh, whether European or native; and the granting of loans at interest is entirely in the hands of Banias or village grain-dealers, whose methods have been indicated above. It is with a view to breaking down this monopoly and providing at the same time cheaper credit to petty traders and agriculturists that an attempt has been made to start co-operative credit societies in the district. At the present time there are two such societies. The older of these, that at Mau, was established on the 27th of March 1906 with a capital of Rs. 935. The members who belong to the society are either agriculturists on petty traders, all of whom take a keen interest in the management, and the institution has in consequence rapidly increased in prosperity. For the year ending April 30th, 1909, a sum of Rs. 4,306 was deposited in it by the members, and loans to the extent of nearly Rs. 8,000 were made, the money being partly derived from deposits and partly borrowed. The assets of the bank amounted to Rs. 8,935 during the year, as against liabilities of Rs. 7,967. The other society is a much smaller one and is located at the village of Khalifatpur in the Sidhari estate, which is at present under the Court of Wards. It was started on April 29th,

1906, with a capital of Rs. 61, and it has a total membership of twenty-one persons, all, with a single exception, being agriculturists. The institution, however, has so far not flourished; the deposits made by the members amounted for the year ending in April 1909 to only Rs. 39; and the total assests of the bank were only Rs. 465 as against liabilities of Rs. 411. So far therefore the co-operative credit movement has not attained a very vigorous growth in Azamgarh, though the conditions of the tract are admirably suited to it.

Manufactures. Though Azamgarh cannot be called an industrial district, its manufactures are of some importance and in one or two instances afford employment to a large number of persons. The chief are sugar, cloth, and pottery each of which will be separately described. Of the remainder, indigo is the most important and at one time occupied a prominent position, but is now greatly in decay. The manufacture of indigo for export dates from the early years of British rule. The commercial resident of the East India Company was permitted to trade on his own account as well as for his masters; and Mr. Crommelin, Commercial Resident at Azamgarh and Mau, in company with two gentlemen named Stewart and Scott, started the first indigo concern in Azamgarh. Seven factories were erected in 1807 at Kondar, Azmatpur and Bisauli in pargana Nizamabad; at Bahadurpur in Ghosi, close to Dohrighat; at Achhaibat and Nagwa in Gopalpur; and at Bhilampur and Kantalpur in pargana Atraulia. In 1808 Mr. D. O. Ferguson, acting on behalf of a Major Stevinson, erected a factory at Nizamabad with branches at Manpur, Faridabad and at Pararaon in pargana Mahul; and a factory at Imilia in pargana Sagri, professedly the property of an Indian, was in 1811 being managed by an European. As time went on, more small factories were erected at various places, situated chiefly in parganas Mahul, Nizamabad, Sagri, Ghosi and Muhammadabad. At the time of the Mutiny there were at least nine concerns whose headquarters were in the district, the chief of these being the Dohrighat concern, which was held by Mr. E. F. Venables. Both before and for some time after the Mutiny the production of indigo remained for the most part in European or Eurasian hands,

the only Indian who possessed a factory being one Basu Darzi, who had purchased six of those belonging to a Mr. Hunter. About 1860, however, Indians began to take an interest in the trade and the high prices obtaining in 1864 and the following years brought about a rage for factory building. Numbers of new native factories sprang up in parganas Nizamabad, Mahul, Gopalpur, Sagri, Ghosi, Natthupur and Muhammadabad; and of 415 factories standing in 1877 no less than 332 had been built in the preceding 14 years. In that year too there were 29 European factories; but of these 13 were not being worked. There has been a steady decline in the industry since 1877; and all the factories in Azamgarh, whether owned by Europeans or Indians, have fallen on evil days. As in other districts, natural indigo has been unable to compete with synthetic indigo; while in addition to the general depression, competition among the manufacturers about 1894 was such that cultivators received as much as Rs. 25 per *bigha* for the plant and continued to demand the same prices long after manufacturers had ceased to be able to pay such a price.

Sugar.

Refined sugar has long been one of the principal exports from Azamgarh. It was one of the commodities in which investments were made for the East India Company by the commercial residents of the district. The cessation of these investments on the abolition of the Company's monopoly caused some distress at first, but about 1837 a great demand sprang up for sugar for export to Europe by way of Calcutta. The trade with Europe continued for several years, and it was carried on to a considerable extent by Europeans; but about 1845 it began to fall off, and it has now for many years ceased to exist. The cause of this, as regards refined sugar, was the imposition in England of differential import duties upon sugar, and the consequent development there of the refining trade. As regards crude sugar, the East Indian variety appears to have been unable to compete with that of the West Indies and Mauritius and the trade was further injured by the expansion in France and Germany of the manufacture of sugar from beet. The cessation of the export to Europe again threw the sugar industry of Azamgarh into confusion; but the loss was

subsequently made good by the extension of the sugar trade in other directions. Most of the exported sugar now goes to northern central and western India.

The press.

In 1877 there were 1,567 sugar refineries in Azamgarh : they were to be found in all parganas, but were most numerous in Nizamabad, Muhammadabad, Sagri and Ghosi. At the present time there are perhaps half that number ; for not only has the area devoted to sugarcane decreased, but the profits of sugar refining have been reduced by foreign competition. As soon as the canes have been cut in the field, they are carried to the *kolhara* or pressing factory in bundles of two hundred or two hundred and fifty. The pressing machinery consists of a mortar (*kolhu*), a pestle (*jath*), and the gear for moving the latter round. These *kolhus* are almost all made of stone from Chunar in Mirzapur. They are brought up by boat in rough round blocks by way of the Tons or Chhoti Sarju during the rains, and are sold at the *ghats* for Rs. 30 or Rs. 50 apiece. Each block is about 6½ feet long by three feet in diameter and is fashioned locally into a *kolhu*. The upper end of the *kolhu* is hollowed out into a cavity, from the bottom of which issues an outlet, called *naroh*, three or four inches in diameter. The whole is firmly embedded in the ground, only about 30 inches of it being left above the surface ; and below the outlet of the *naroh* is fixed an earthen pot to catch the juice. The *jath* or pestle is generally the stem of a *babul* tree, varying in length from nine to eighteen feet, and sloping at an angle of about 45° to the inner surface of the *kolhu*, against which it presses the cane. In a deep channel, called *rah*, cut round the *kolhu* about six inches above the ground is fitted the shaft or *katar*. This consists of a plank about 17 or 18 feet long, the end of which is attached to the upper end of the *jath* by a long rope. The yoke for the oxen is also fitted to it ; and the whole is pulled round by oxen, the pestle expressing the juice from the cane inside the *kolhu*.

Gur.

Two kinds of crude sugar are made in Azamgarh. One of these, variously called *gur*, *bheli* or *dhosa*, receives no sort of refining and is a solid dry mass ; while the other is known as *rab* and is refined to some extent. It is only in the west of the district,

however, that *rab* is regularly made. For the manufacture of *gur*, the juice, after being strained, is placed in a large iron saucer with four handles, called *karah*. It is boiled over a furnace called *chulha*, which is merely a circular hole in the ground two or three feet deep, till it becomes one-fifth or one-sixth of its original bulk, the refuse that comes to the top being from time to time removed with an iron ladle called *pauna*. When the boiling is complete, the *karah* is removed off the furnace; and the stuff in it is kneaded with a mallet called *gurdam*. When sufficiently stiff and cool, it is removed and allowed to cool, having become *gur*. According to the returns compiled from the crop cutting experiments made in the district, the average annual outturn of *gur* is estimated to be 45 maunds per acre, giving an average annual outturn for the district of nearly 3,000,000 maunds. In the preparation of *rab* two boiling pans are used. One *Rab.* is placed above the furnace in front of the other; and the *karahs* employed are also somewhat deeper than those used in the *gur* process. The juice, moreover, is not moved straight from the *nand* to the *karah* for inspissation, but receives a partial boiling to prevent it turning sour; it is then stored till the pressing of twenty-four hours is completed and a sufficient quantity of juice for a single boiling into *rab* is obtained. The requisite quantity of juice being ready, a quantity is filled into the *karahs* and the fire is lighted. While the juice is boiling the dirt is skimmed off as it rises, the process of disintegration being added by mixing into the boiling juice a gelatinous stuff, obtained from steeping in water the chopped roots and stems of a wild plant called *dulla*. When thus cleared of dirt, the juice becomes a clear black liquid; and this is boiled for three to five hours till it becomes a thick syrup. Towards the close of the boiling process bruised castor oil seed is thrown into the syrup. This is called *jawan* or *dawan*, and is intended to promote the coagulation of the saccharine matter when the syrup is taken off the furnace. The syrup is then emptied into large earthenware receptacles and is violently stirred and beaten with a club for half an hour. After it has stood for two or three hours, it is emptied into large jars, in which it becomes half solid and ready for sale under the name of *rab*.

Refined sugar.

Rab is the basis of the refined sugar manufactured in Azamgarh, which is known as *kachhi chini*, *shakkar* or *pakki chini*. To make *kachhi chini* little rectangular vats of mud are constructed, from which one or more small outlets lead into reservoirs sunk in the floor. *Rab* is filled into the vat and covered to the depth of three or four inches with the stems and leaves of the aquatic plant, called *siwar*. The molasses and impurities soon begin to settle towards the bottom of the mass, and white sugar to form in a powder on its surface. The molasses which are known as *chota* drain off into reservoirs, and the powder is taken up as it forms every three or four days. The process continues for twenty days or a month, till the whole mass has been separated into *chini* and *chota*. When the *chini* has been collected it is trodden and dried for some two days, and at the end of this time it becomes a smooth white powder ready for sale. In order to manufacture *shakkar*, a series of small parallel drains *(nalis)* is made, leading first into a larger drain which cuts them at right angles and then into the reservoir or *dobha*. Over the floor thus divided by *nalis*, a framework of bamboos called *dhar* is laid, and upon that a matting made of rushes or *gondri*. The *rab* is tied lightly in cloth in quantities of a maund, and several bundles are piled one above the other in rows upon the *dhar*; on these large weights made of sun-baked clay, called *bhiras*, are placed. *Chota* or molasses soon begin to ooze from the bundles and to trickle down through the *dhar* into the drains. Compression is continued for fifteen or twenty days till *chota* ceases to exude; and the stuff remaining in the bundles is a damp, light-brown substance which is *shakkar*. Cultivators as such do not manufacture *pakki chini* or fully refined sugar; this is made either by traders or proprietors with means, the process being generally as follows. Either *bheli* or *rab* and water are first poured into the boiling pan in the proportion of 50 gallons of water to 18 maunds of *bheli;* and the *bheli* is allowed to dissolve for ten or twelve hours. The pan is then set boiling, two or three quarts of milk being added during the process to aid clarification. The scum that rises to the surface is skimmed off, and when the liquid after seven or eight hours has become a clear black syrup, called *shira*, it is taken from the pan and emptied

into earthenware receptacles. The pan, having been now washed, is filled with some eight gallons of *shira* for a second boiling. As the liquid approaches the proper consistency, bruised castor-oil seed is stirred in, and it is then baled out of the pan into a series of small earthenware receptacles. From these it is removed to large open earthenware pans which are kept in another room, and becomes a thick semi-solid substance. At the end of seven or eight days it is placed in vats or *pharias* and covered over with *siwar* as in the case of *kachhi chini* ; but only one-third of the stuff forms in a powder on the surface and is collected and trodden as *chini*. At Phulpur the method of refining sugar differs somewhat from that commonly pursued in the rest of the district. Here refined sugar is generally made only from *shakkar*. Water is mixed with *shakkar* in the proportion of 35 gallons to 10 maunds of *shakkar*, and milk at the rate of a pint to each maund is added, the rest of the process not differing from that already explained. Phulpur sugar is very granular and sweet, and sells at a higher price than that manufactured elsewhere in Azamgarh. Refined sugar is stored in large bags made of sack-cloth ; and is thus exported, each bag containing about two maunds.

Azamgarh has long enjoyed a celebrity for the manufacture of cloth, and although the trade is at the present time in a very depressed condition, it is still an important industry. In former days not only was the whole population of the district clad in cloth of local manufacture, but large quantities of different kinds were exported to other parts of India. The great centres of the industry have always been the towns of Mau, Muhammadabad and Kopa, where cloths of fine texture and silk mixtures are also made ; and the weavers are for the most part Muhammadan Julahas. In 1876 the number of looms in the district was returned at 13,058, and the number of weavers above fifteen years of age was, according to the census returns of 1872, 12,700 or 2·80 per cent. of the population above that age. No records regarding the number of looms at present at work in Azamgarh are forthcoming, but there were 60,394 persons, including dependants, in the district in 1901, who derived their livelihood from cotton weaving and allied industries. Cloth.

The weaving industry has certainly declined in recent years, first as a result of plague, from which the weaver class appear to have suffered greatly, and secondly, as the result of the rise in the price of yarn combined with unfavorable agricultural seasons. In Mubarakpur the chief product is a silk and cotton union like satin, the fabrics woven being known as *Sanqis* and *Ghaltas*. *Sanqi* derives its name from the fact that two warp threads are treated together as one thread in weaving. A wavy line, called *Khanjari*, runs along the whole width of the fabric and is produced by the necessary manipulation of the weft thread. The characteristic form is green or yellow warp (and consequently green or yellow *khanjari*) with red weft; and the cloth is a favourite one with all classes of the population, especially Musalmans. The name *ghalta* is derived from the Persian *ghaltidan*, to roll, probably with reference to its smooth glazed surface, one method of producing which is to pass the fabric over or under hot cylinders which are rolled. Though a mixture of silk and cotton, the upper surface of *ghalta* in the completed length is so well pressed and calendered that none of the cotton shows; while the back shows very little silk and almost all cotton. The characteristic pattern on a *ghalta* is checks bounded by one, two or three lines, and the portion between the lines running in one direction may be filled in with silk of a different colour from the rest of the fabric, so that there will be a combination of checks and stripes. The raw material used is both mulberry and *tasar* silk, imported mainly from Bengal; and *ghaltas* are, as a rule, woven with white yarn and then dyed by dealers with chemical dyes. Owing to trade depression, however, many of the weavers in Mubarakpur have been compelled to resort to the weaving of cotton handkerchiefs and *pagris*, which are now more in demand than satins. At Mau, muslins requiring yarn from sixties to a hundred or over are still largely woven, the weft in some cases being silk; but the staple product of the place is now the *dakhini pagri*, which is manufactured for sale in the Maratha country. Many varieties of this article in red or white are woven but in the majority of them the texture is loose and the cotton used is of low counts, the quality of the finished article being considerably inferior to that manufactured in Bulandshahr. *Dhotis* and *saris* for local use

as well as for the Deccan districts are woven in large numbers. The yarn is supplied at Mau by dealers who import it from Cawnpore or Calcutta, and is dyed at home with aniline dyes for inferior articles: but when fast colours are desired ready dyed yarn is purchased. The finished cloth is usually sold in the open market to dealers, some of whom are Julahas; and these dealers have correspondents or even branch shops in places as distant as Cawnpore, Poona, Hyderabad, Nepal and Calcutta.

The fancy pottery made in Nizamabad has some local celebrity. The art is said to have come from Gujerat, whence the ancestor of the potters is said to have accompanied Abdul Farah Nizamabadi in the reign of Aurangzeb. The pottery is a black or reddish brown ware, ornamented with designs in silver foil. The black colour is produced by grinding up black pebbles in a hand-mill, mixing the powder with gum or paste, and applying it to the unbaked vessel with a brush. The mixture is dark-brown before baking and turns black under the action of the fire. A dark terra-cotta colour is produced by smearing the unbaked vessels with a rust-coloured earth called *kabiz*, mixed with sweet oil. After the baking, silver foil or an amalgam of mercury and tin is rubbed with the thumb nail into lines etched with a sharp instrument on the unbaked ware. The articles produced are chiefly tea-pots, sugar-boils, candle-sticks, vases and the like. These are generally very cheap in price and, in the words of Sir George Birdwood, are "feeble and rickety in form and insipid and meretricious in decoration, defects to which the fine black colour gives the greater prominence." Pottery.

Saltpetre is manufactured in all parganas except Atraulia and Mau; in the latter its manufacture is not permitted because the proportion of chloride of sodium in the saline deposits is so great that under cover of saltpetre licenses much illicit salt would inevitably be made. There are at present two saltpetre refineries in the district, the one at Kopaganj in pargana Muhammadabad, and the other at Gujyapur in pargana Natthupur. The refined saltpetre is sent to Calcutta for export to Europe, and some crude saltpetre is also exported. Carbonate of soda, which is known as Saltpetre.

sajji, is exported to Patna and other places in the east for use in the manufacture of soap and glass.

Trade. The chief imports into the district are grain, English-made cloth, cotton and cotton yarn, silk, salt, metals and hardware, drugs and leather-goods; while the exports are sugar and molasses, linseed, indigo, opium, saltpetre and cloth. In former days the principal trade routes of the district were the Ghagra, Tons, and Chhoti Sarju rivers. The river side wharves on the Ghagra were Dohrighat, Nainijor and Chaprighat; from these the goods received were despatched by road to the various local markets, while goods were brought up the Tons and Chhoti Sarju during the rains to Azamgarh and other places. The traffic on the waterways has now been supplanted to a large extent by the various lines of railway that traverse the district. The development of the Bengal and North-Western system has further had a marked effect on the road communications. The traffic in cotton which came to Azamgarh formerly from the mart of Shahganj in Jaunpur has for the most part passed into the hands of the railway; and that in grain from Oudh and Basti, which used to be brought down the Ghagra to Dohrighat and thence despatched towards Jaunpur, Ghazipur and Benares, has followed suit. When the extension from Azamgarh to Gosainganj in Fyzabad, a town on the Oudh and Rohilkhand railway, is completed, practically the entire traffic of the district will be rail-borne.

Markets. A list of all the markets held in the district will be found in the appendix. They are very numerous, but the majority of them are purely local in character and merely serve to supply the scanty needs of the surrounding population. The most important bazars are at Azamgarh, Nizamabad and Sarai Mir in Azamgarh tahsil; at Barhalganj, Mau and Muhammadabad in Muhammadabad tahsil; at Atraulia, Ahraula, Phulpur and Mahul in tahsil Mahul; at Lalganj, Deogaon and Mehnagar in tahsil Deogaon; at Jianpur and Maharajganj in Sagri; and at Kopaganj, Dohrighat, Ghosi and Dubari in tahsil Ghosi. The general tendency is for those markets on the river and off the line of railway to decrease in importance, the two best instances of this being Nainijor and Chhapri on the

Ghagra. The town of Azamgarh has risen in importance since the opening of the railway ; but the place that has benefited more than any other is Mau, which is now an important junction.

Fairs.

Another list given in the appendix shows the fairs held in Azamgarh. In each case they are religious in origin, and in many instances the celebration of some festival, whether Hindu or Muhammadan, is the main object of the assemblage. At most of them, however, temporary shops are set up, and a certain amount of trade is done in the articles of ordinary consumption. Durbasa in pargana Nizamabad, at the junction of the Manjhi and Tons derives its name from a Hindu saint, Durbasa Rikh, who is said to have lived and been interred there. The fair meets on the full moon of *Kartik* and lasts for a day, the estimated attendance being 20,000 people. At Dohrighat, on the banks of the Ghagra, the bathing festival of the full moon of *Kartik* is attended by several thousands of people, and a similar gathering takes place on the same day at Sahroj, at the junction of the Tons and Chhoti Sarju. The *dargah* at Kolhuaban in pargana Natthupur is alleged to be the scene of one of the forty-day fasts of Saiyad Ahmad Badpa, generally known as Miran Shah. The festival held in his honour lasts for six weeks, being celebrated on seven consecutive Thursdays, beginning with the last Thursday in *Jeth*. The only other fair which deserves mention is the Deolas fair in pargana Muhammadabad, which is also known as the *Lalari Chhath* and is held on the sixth of the light half of *Kartik*. Deolas is famous in the district for its lake and temple of the sun ; and at the fair, to which considerable numbers resort from the neighbouring parganas, a thriving business is done by the shopkeepers.

Communications.

Azamgarh is now well provided with means of communication, chiefly owing to the facilities afforded by the railway. With the exception of those that have been metalled, few of the roads are of a good description, though those which are designated second-class roads are fair of their kind. The rest, particularly in the south of the district where the friable *usar* cannot be combined to form a good surface, are indifferent, and considerable difficulty is experienced in conveying merchandise in carts along them, especially in the rains. This is seen in the small extent to

which carts are used in Azamgarh compared with the western districts ; these are commonly employed only along the more serviceable routes, and as a rule most of the traffic between the villages and the local bazars is carried by means of pack-bullocks and ponies. There is a noticeable absence throughout the district of village cart tracks.

Railways. There are three distinct lines of railway in Azamgarh, all of which belong to the Bengal and North-Western system. The first portion to be opened was that from Turtipur in Ballia to Mau, on the 8th of June 1898. Of this branch eight miles lie in the district and there are stations at Indaura and Mau. At the same date a branch from Mau to Azamgarh was also opened with stations at Khurhat, Muhammadabad, Gohna and Jahanaganj Road. On the 15th of March 1899, a line was completed between Indaura station and Ballia, and the branch from Turtipur to Mau was extended to Benares; while on February 14th, 1903, Azamgarh was linked up with Shahganj in Jaunpur. The line from Mau to Shahganj now forms a portion of the Ballia-Shahganj branch, while that from Turtipur past Mau and Pipridih stations forms part of the Bhatni-Benares branch. The remaining line is that which runs from Indaura junction to Dohrighat on the Ghagra: it is 22 miles in length and was opened to traffic on March 24th, 1904. There are stations on this branch at Kopaganj and Ghosi. There are altogether 94 miles of railway at the present moment in Azamgarh, and there is every probability of an extension in the near future. A line from Azamgarh to Gosainganj in the Fyzabad district has already been suryeyed and work will soon be commenced on it. This will traverse the north-western portion of the district and bring it into connection with an important station on the Oudh and Rohilkhand railway.

Roads. The roads of the district are divided into provincial and local, the former being entirely under the control of the Public Works department and maintained from provincial revenues. Of the local roads, those which are metalled are repaired by the Public Works department at the expense of local funds, while the others are kept up entirely by the district board. The provincial roads comprise $57\frac{1}{2}$ miles of the trunk road leading from Allahabad to

Gorakhpur *viâ* Jaunpur, Azamgarh and Dohrighat, and $27\frac{1}{2}$ miles of the metalled road from Dohrighat to Ghazipur. Both these roads are of very old standing and were metalled soon after the Mutiny; and they were, before the introduction of the railways, the main routes by which traffic found its way across the district to Ghazipur and Jaunpur from the north, and into Azamgarh from the south. The local roads are divided into four classes. Those of the first-class are metalled roads, bridged and drained throughout, and the most important of them is the road which leaves the Azamgarh-Jaunpur road at Rani-ki-sarai and runs through Phulpur to the important mart of Shahganj in the Jaunpur district. Besides this, metalled roads connect Azamgarh directly with Ghazipur and Benares to the south and with Mau to the east, while the road from Azamgarh to Fyzabad is metalled for a short distance. The last named road was metalled up to the district boundary until about 1870, but as little traffic was found to pass along it, it was abandoned as a first-class metalled road in 1877 and has since only being maintained as such for three miles out of Azamgarh city. Altogether there are at the present time 192 miles of metalled road in Azamgarh, representing an addition of 56 miles in the last thirty years. The total length of unmetalled road in the district is now $514\frac{1}{2}$ miles. Of this $108\frac{1}{2}$ miles are of the second-class, which are bridged and drained throughout, and include the roads from Azamgarh to Fyzabad, from Didarganj to Bardu, and from Belwai to Phulpur. The third-class roads have a total length of $285\frac{1}{4}$ miles and are only banked and surfaced, without being drained; while the fourth-class roads, which are banked but not surfaced and only partially bridged and drained are 121 miles in length. These roads ramify in all directions, and connect local market towns and remote villages with the metalled roads and railways. A list of all the roads, both metalled and unmetalled, will be found in the appendix, and their position can be seen on the map.

Encamping grounds and bungalows.

There are altogether sixteen encamping-grounds on the principal roads of the district. On the Jaunpur-Dohrighat road these lie at Jiuli, Thekman, Sarsena, Rani Sarai, Azamgarh, Jianpur and Dhanauli; while on the Ghazipur-Dohrighat road they are situated at Mau, Ghosi, Jamalpur-Mirzapur and Sarahra.

There are two encamping-grounds, at Jahanaganj and Sarsena (pargana Chiriakot), on the direct road from Azamgarh to Ghazipur ; and two others, at Gumadih and Deogaon, on the road to Benares. There is also one at Shahjirpur on the road from Rani Sarai to Shahganj, while *sarais* or rest-houses for travellers are maintained at Thekman, Rani Sarai, Jianpur, Dohri, Chiriakot and Muhammadabad. The district is fairly well supplied also with inspection bungalows for the use of officials on tour. Those at Dohrighat and Mau are of the first-class, and that at Thekmau is of the second-class, all three being under the control of the Public Works department. Others are situated at Deogaon, Sarsena, Muhammadabad, Phulpur, Parwa and Mehnagar and are under the management of the district board ; while at Azamgarh there is a *dâk* bungalow maintained by the same authority.

Bridges and ferries.

The largest bridge in the district is that which carries the railway over the Tons river at Mau ; but both the provincial and local roads are provided with bridges where they cross the main drainage channels of the district. The Tons is bridged at Ahraula, twice near Azamgarh on the Jaunpur and Ghazipur roads, respectively, and at Mau on the Ghazipur-Dohrighat road. The road to Dohrighat is carried by a bridge over the Suksui *nadi*, four miles north of Azamgarh, over the Kayar river, one mile north of Bankat, and over the Chhoti Sarju, six miles north of Jianpur. The Azamgarh-Benares road is bridged at the crossing of the Besu and Gangi, and the Azamgarh-Jaunpur road at that of the Besu and Mangui ; while the road to Shahganj is provided with a bridge over the Kuar *nadi* near Phulpur. A list of all the ferries in the district is given in the appendix. They are only four in number and are all situated on the Ghagra. The most important is that at Barhaj which brings in an annual income of some Rs. 2,350 to the district board. The other streams being impassable only during the rains, temporary ferries are maintained by private persons, but they are of no importance. There is also a ferry at Dohrighat on the provincial road to Gorakhpur which is under the control of the Public Works department and for which an annual contract is given, the receipts being credited to provincial revenues.

Waterways.

Something has already been said regarding the Ghagra and other streams of the district as highways of traffic. Before the introduction of the railway the Ghagra carried a considerable volume of trade, and there were formerly three river side wharves at Dohrighat, Nainijor and Chhaprighat. The river is still used to some extent as a commercial highway, being navigable by boats of large displacement, and considerable quantities of grain, rice, timber, oil and salt are brought down from the districts of Gorakhpur, Basti and Fyzabad. But the traffic has greatly decreased in volume and the only wharf with any trade now is that at Dohrighat ; even this place has greatly fallen off in prosperity in recent years. The traffic on the Tons and Chhoti Sarju is of an intermittent character, as these streams only carry sufficient water during and for a short time after the rains. At this period boats still ascend them as far as Azamgarh and other places, but practically the only commodity transported now is firewood from the *dhak* jungles along the banks of the Tons.

CHAPTER III.

The People.

Owing to the changes that have taken place in the area and shape of the district at different times it is impossible to determine with accuracy the population of Azamgarh from the records of the early enumerations of the inhabitants of these provinces. A further difficulty is caused by the fact that records of the first attempt at obtaining a census were notoriously inaccurate. A census taken in 1837 returned the total population at 779,555 persons, the density being only 367 persons to the square mile. In 1847 the number of inhabitants was stated to be 1,120,682 persons, the resultant density being 529 persons to the square mile; but the number was only assumed on the basis of persons to a house, and no reliance can be placed either on the returns of this census or on that of 1837. At the census of 1853 the people were numbered by the *patwaris* in the villages and by the *bakhshis* or treasurers in the towns, under the immediate superintendence of the tahsildars. This was a far more accurate enumeration, and by it the inhabitants were found to number 1,415,435 souls, the total area of the district was returned at 2516·4 square miles, and the resultant density was 657 persons to the square mile, ranging from 1,043 in pargana Atraulia to 493 in Qariat Mittu. The figure is calculated from the totals of the parganas, exclusive of Sikandarpur and Bhadaon which were transferred to Ballia in 1879; but no account necessarily can be taken of the villages transferred to Azamgarh in 1904. When the next census was taken in 1865 the population was found to number 1,205,169 persons, the decrease being no less than 210,266. There appear to be no clear reasons for this decline, though doubtless some disturbance was caused by the Mutiny and the unfavourable nature of the seasons that had immediately preceded the census. On the other hand, it is possible that there was some understatement of the total on this occasion; for it is well known that

Early enumerations.

In this chapter the tahsils referred to, unless the contrary is stated, are the tahsils as they were at the time of the census of 1901.

in many districts concealment of females had been practised to a considerable extent. The following enumeration of 1872 showed a population of 1,317,626 for the district. The increase in the seven years was therefore 112,457, and the average density was 613 persons to the square mile. This was probably a far closer approximation to the reality than had hitherto been achieved, but on this occasion also there was some suspicion that the numbers had been understated.

Census of 1881.

This suspicion was confirmed at the census of 1881, when the number of the inhabitants was returned at 1,604,654 persons. The increase was remarkable, amounting to 287,028 persons, while the resultant density per square mile averaged 747 souls. The former was a larger increase than in any district except Gorakhpur and the latter was only exceeded in Benares, Ballia and Jaunpur. How far this increase was real is a matter of some doubt; suspicion is thrown on the reality by the fact that over 60 per cent. of the increase was in females, and this suggests that the practice of concealment had not been wholly abandoned at the preceding enumeration. Moreover, the enumeration itself in 1881 was probably more accurate than it had been in 1872.

Census of 1891.

At the census of 1891 the district had a population of 1,728,625 persons, the increment being 123,971. The increase was a very substantial one, following as it did that of the preceding decade, though it fell considerably short of that in the two other districts of the Gorakhpur division. The density had now risen to the high figure of 804·6 persons to the square mile, a figure which was almost equal to that of Ballia, and exceeded that of all other districts, if the city populations in the latter be excluded.

Census of 1901.

The last census took place in March 1901, and it was then ascertained that the inhabitants of Azamgarh as then constituted numbered 1,529,785 souls, showing a decrease of no less than 198,840 in the preceding ten years. Owing, however, to the transfer in 1904 of 122 villages from Gorakhpur to Azamgarh, the population has been increased by 13,389 persons and the area of the district by 67 square miles. The mean density calculated on the area as it existed in 1901 had dropped to 712·5 persons per square mile or to 697 persons per square mile if the present area be taken

as the basis of calculation. Either of these densities is larger than that of any other rural district in the United Provinces, except Jaunpur and Ballia ; though they are considerably below that of Benares and Lucknow which are both small districts with large city populations. The registers of births and deaths between 1891 and 1901 warranted the expectation of a small decline of 5,366 persons, but the actual decrease amounted to 11·5 per cent. and exceeded that of every other district in the province. Of the districts in which the decline in population was more than 10 per cent., Banda, Hamirpur and Ghazipur, in two, namely Banda and Hamirpur, severe famine prevailed in 1896-97 and serious outbreaks of cholera occurred in 1894, 1895 and 1896. But in the cartern districts of the province, of which Azamgarh and Ghazipur form part, no extensive famine relief had been necessary in 1896-97 and though cholera is endemic in them it had not assumed a violent form in any year. The causes of decrease therefore are to be sought in the excessive rainfall of the earlier part of the decade, which was responsible for a high death rate from fever, and in the emigration which takes place to a larger extent from this tract than from any other area in the provinces.

Migration.

The extent to which migration has brought about a decrease in the total population is not easy to determine. The census returns shew that on the one hand 95·63 per cent. of the inhabitants were born in Azamgarh and 4·4 per cent. were natives of adjacent districts or of other parts of India. There had also been a decline in the number of immigrants, for in 1891, the proportion of the people born in Azamgarh was only 94·4 per cent. of the total. On the other hand, of all persons enumerated in India who gave Azamgarh as their birth-place, 88·61 per cent. were found in the district, 7·47 per cent. in other parts of the provinces, and 3·92 per cent. elsewhere. This gave a total proportion of 11·39 per cent. of emigration. Now the population as estimated from the vital statistics between 1891 and 1901 amounted to 1,723,259 persons giving an excess of 193,474 persons over the number actually enumerated in 1901. The number of persons who had emigrated to other districts of the United Provinces was 123,295 ; and if this number be deducted from the estimated population, the net

population expected in 1901 amounts to 1,599,964 persons or 70,179 persons in excess of that actually recorded. It is known that 24,874 inhabitants of Azamgarh were enumerated in 1901 in Calcutta and contiguous districts, 20,604 in Assam, and 12,849 in Mymensingh; while 17,752 emigrated to countries outside India, making a grand total of 76,079 persons. It is not known, however, how many of these persons actually left the district between 1891 and 1901. It is probable that emigration began before 1891, but was accelerated after that year, and it may be assumed that some 70,000 people were lost to the district to the few places for which a record has been kept. On the other hand, it is not known at all how many inhabitants of Azamgarh left the district for contiguous districts in Bengal, such as Saran and Champaran, or for Bombay, though emigration to both is known to be considerable; but the total number of emigrants whose birthplace was Azamgarh tallies remarkably with the difference between the actual population and that expected according to the vital statistics.

Towns and villages.

There is no large town in the district and the urban population only amounts to 5·9 per cent. of the whole. In 1901 Azamgarh contained 4,700 towns and villages, but of this number no less than 3,856 had populations of less than five hundred, 601 others of less than one thousand, while of the remainder 236 possessed between one and five thousand inhabitants and seven more than five thousand. The largest place is Azamgarh, which contained 18,835 souls, and after this come Mau and Mubarakpur, which have 17,696 and 15,433 respectively. These are followed by Muhammadabad, Kopaganj and Dubari all of which have over 5,000 inhabitants, the other towns being Sarai Mir, Dohri, Chiriakot, Phulpur, Atraulia and Maharajganj. Large villages are the exception in Azamgarh. The average population per village is only 306·77 souls, excluding the towns, and only 6·86 per cent. of the rural population reside in villages whose inhabitants exceed five thousand. Both proportions are well below the provincial average. Most of the villages are composed of an irregular cluster of huts. Even in the towns a house built of bricks or masonry is rare, though both there and in the villages those that belong

to landholders, shopkeepers and substantial tenants have tiled roofs. The poorer low-caste tenants and the labouring classes live in thatched huts, which resemble those found throughout the Gorakhpur division and afford a strong contrast to the compact and semi-fortified villages of the Upper Doab.

At the last census the population comprised 757,314 males and 772,471 females, the latter standing to the former in the relation of 102 to 100. This preponderance of females is common to the Benares and Gorakhpur divisions, and also occurs in the south-east of Oudh. It is somewhat less in Azamgarh than in Jaunpur, Ghazipur and Ballia, but exceeds the proportion in Gorakhpur slightly and that in Fyzabad by a larger margin. On the other hand it is only noticeable among some low castes such as Chamars ; while among higher castes, though Brahman females are considerably more numerous than Brahman males, exactly the reverse is found in the case of Rajputs. The discrepancy among the sexes has been ascribed by some to emigration, and this may, and doubtless has, a very marked effect ; but it is impossible that it can be the sole factor that distinguishes the eastern portion of the United Provinces from the western. Whatever may be the case in Azamgarh, the discrepancy is not more noticeable in other districts situated near it among the castes that furnish most of the emigrants than among those who do not do so ; while as regards immigration, the number of female immigrants exceeds that of males in almost every district of the province. The discrepancy in the tract as a whole is probably the result of some unknown natural influence ; though in Azamgarh more obvious causes may be at work. For the proportion of females to males has steadily increased during the last three enumerations ; in 1872 it only reached the low figure of 85·5, whereas in 1881 it was 96·5 and in 1891 as much as 99·2. In this connection it is noticeable that between 1891 and 1901 male births averaged 26,158 and those of females only 24,066; while the recorded deaths for the same period were 26,821 and 23,940 respectively. The difference exists irrespective of creed and race, being even more prominent among Musalmans than among Hindus. Sex.

Religion.

Azamgarh is for the most part a Hindu district. In 1901 the population was made up of 1,313,371 Hindus, 214,631 Musalmans, 1,455 Sikhs, 185 Christians, 130 Aryas, 11 Jains, one Jew and one Parsi. Thus Hindus stand to Musalmans in the relation of nearly six to one, the former comprising 85·85 per cent. of the whole and the latter 14·03 per cent. The proportion of Musalmans is larger than in any other district of the Benares or Gorakhpur divisions and has increased of late years ; for in 1881 Musalmans numbered 13·16 per cent. and in 1891, 13·05 per cent. The relatively more rapid increase of this portion of the community is a feature common to most districts of the province, and is usually ascribed to the fact that the Musalmans form a smaller proportion of the low class agricultural population than the Hindus, whose conditions of life are more severe than in the case of the population of the towns, where the majority of the Musalmans reside. Musalmans consequently enjoy greater longevity and fertility. Of the other religions there is little to be said. The Sikhs are found in all tahsils, but especially in Muhammadabad, Azamgarh and Sagri ; they are for the most part converted Sikhs and comprise members of a number of castes, the best represented being Kandus, Kayasths, Halwais and Sonars. Christianity has of recent years made some headway, for in 1901 there were 104 native Christians as against only 21 in 1891. The Church Missionary Society has laboured in Azamgarh from as far back as 1818, but a separate branch was not established in the district till 1861. It maintains three anglo-vernacular schools at Azamgarh and Mau, and five small girls' schools. A branch of the Salvation Army has also been established at Sarai Mir, but its efforts have not been attended with any marked success, only 16 Salvationist having been recorded among the native population in 1901. The Arya Samaj was started in Azamgarh in 1894, and has obtained all its converts since, there having been no adherents of the sect in 1891. The majority of these are to be found in tahsils Muhammadabad and Sagri.

Hindus.

The majority of the Hindus belong to no definite sect or denomination, though at the same time a larger proportion than usual were returned at the census of 1901 as followers of a

particular school. Thus as many as 12·2 per cent. were classified as worshippers of the Panchon Pir or Five Saints, a heterodox cult which is very prevalent throughout the Benares division; and 8·3 per cent. as monotheists. The religious beliefs of the latter are uncertain, but it is probable that the designation of monotheist is intended in general to record belief in one impersonal God in the abstract, apart from the idea of any special impersonation. Some such feeling is widespread especially among those who have derived their religious ideas from the teachings of Rai Das, Kabir and other monotheist teachers; and it may be noted that in Azamgarh more Kabirpanthis and Rai Dasis were recorded in 1901 than in any other district of the province. Over five per cent. of the Hindus were returned as Vaishnavites, the most strongly represented sect being that of Nanakshahis; but there were only 1,313 Saivites in the district, the bulk of whom were Alakhnamis. There are no religious buildings of any note in Azamgarh; though this is due rather to the poverty of the people than to a lack of religious feeling. The beliefs of the majority of the inhabitants are indefinite and probably often unorthodox; and cases are common where Hindus and Muhammadans join to pay religious honours at shrines, such as those of Salar Masaud at Bhagatpur and Malik Jagir at Mau, which were originally venerated only by Musalmans.

Hindu castes.

The Hindu community includes representatives of no fewer than 76 different castes, excluding subdivisions, while in the case of 119 persons no caste was specified at the last census. A large number of these are very sparsely represented, but in 31 instances the total exceeded 2,000 persons. Many of these castes occur in every district, though a few will require more detailed notice on account of their comparative rarity elsewhere; but the remainder are too well known for the most part to need more than a passing mention, for there is no remarkable variety in the composition of the population of the district.

Chamars.

Chamars take the foremost place, there being, at the census of 1901, 256,618 members of this caste, forming 19·54 per cent. of the Hindu population. They are the predominant caste in every tahsil except Azamgarh and Sagri, where their numbers

are exceeded by those of Ahirs. They call for no special mention, being similar to their brethren who abound throughout the province. Collectively they hold a large area of land as tenants, but individual holdings are often small, and many are were landless labourers, and occupy almost the lowest position in the social scale.

Ahirs.

After Chamars come Ahirs, of whom there mere 218,958 representatives or 16·57 of the Hindu population. They form the predominant caste in Azamgarh and Sagri tahsils ; elsewhere except in Deogaon they are numerically the second strongest caste. The Ahirs form the backbone of the agricultural community, being cultivators of a high order, but their landed possessions are small. They belong for the most part to the subdivision known as Gwalabans; and they have a tradition that their ancestors were once the ruling race, holding the same position that the Rajputs hold now.

Brahmans.

The third place is taken by Brahmans, of whom there were 107,589 or 8·19 per cent. of the Hindus. The majority of the Brahmans of Azamgarh claim to be Sarwarias or Sarjuparis, both names having a territorial origin and meaning Brahmans of the Sarwar or Sarjupar, that is, the country beyond the Sarju or Ghagra river. Few of them, however, appear to take high rank on the score of lineage or sanctity. The number of Brahmans who confine themselves to religious pursuits in Azamgarh is small; and they are found engaged in agriculture, trade and service. With the exception of a few families, the landed properties of individual Brahman families are small, and the only large communities that deserve mention are the Misrs of Akhaichanda in pargana Gopalpur and the Barhanian Misrs of the Misran (as their possessions are called) in pargana Natthupur. The traditions of the first make out that they have resided in pargana Gopalpur for some four hundred years. Their ancestors are said to have come into it in company with the Kausik Rajputs, when the latter emigrated from a tract now included in the Gorakhpur district. The Barhanian Misrs date their settlement in Natthupur from the time when their ancestor, Gopal Misr, immigrated into these parts from the Sarwar. This happened some 300 years ago. Gopal's descendants acquired the greater portion of the property

they hold, partly by force and partly by purchase, from the Mal *zamindars* and Kakan Rajputs amongst whom they settled. In the earliest days of British rule the Misrs proved themselves refractory subjects of the state, and many of their mud forts had to be destroyed before they could be coerced into paying their revenue. They have not, however, since those days given any trouble. Brahmans are numerous in all tahsils of the district, but are strongest in tahsils Mahul and Sagri.

At the census of 1901 there were 99,393 Rajputs in the district, forming 7·57 per cent. of the Hindu inhabitants. They belong to a great variety of clans, hold more land than any other caste in the district, though there is no great chief or large proprietor among them, and probably form the most important portion of the Hindu community. In every case they claim to be descended from immigrants who came to the district within the historical period; and possibly their migration was due to the pressure exerted upon them by Musalman invaders in the west. They are most numerous in tahsil Deogaon and least numerous in tahsil Azamgarh; while in Muhammadabad they exceed Brahmans in number and in Deogaon even exceed Ahirs. The Rajputs of Azamgarh comprise members of nearly every clan enumerated at the census, but in the case of 24,443 persons or nearly one quarter of the whole no clan was specified. Rajputs.

Far the most important clan, at any rate in respect of number, is the Bais, of whom there were 25,181 representatives or over one-fourth of the whole body of Rajputs. No less than 18,173 of the number are to be found in tahsil Deogaon. The Bais of Kuba and Utraha in Deogaon rank above all other classes of Bais in the district. The accounts given of the entrance of the clan upon its present domain are not quite uniform. One tradition says that the Bais ejected a tribe called Sanghaia which occupied a part of pargana Deogaon. Another account says that the land first acquired by the tribe in Deogaon was held by a Muhammadan named Khwaja Minhaj, in whose service was Mainpardeo, the ancestor of the chief Bais family of Kuba, and to whose land the latter succeeded on the death of his master. Khwaja Minhaj's tomb is still preserved at Mihnajpur by the Bais.

Bais Rajputs. Mainpardeo is said to have come from Hatnawar, an older Bais settlement in pargana Bahariabad in Ghazipur. The Bais of Chauri in Deogaon are known as the descendants of Bhao Singh, who is said to have come from Gutwan, a place in Jaunpur ; but the circumstances under which he came are not known: nor is it known when or how Miruk Rai, the ancestor of the Dakhinha Bais of pargana Belhabans, established himself in Azamgarh. The Bais of Ghosi trace their descent to Lakhan Rai, who with his brother Ghatam Rai settled in pargana Ghosi some seventeen generations ago ; but their origin and arrival in this part of the country are not explained. Ghatam Rai, for reasons which tradition has not preserved, became a Muhammadan. Lakhan Rai also and one of his sons are described in one tradition as having embraced Islam ; and his tomb, which is called a *chaura*, is in the village of Lakhipur. But part of his family remained Hindu, and is represented now by the Bais of Lakhipur, Ariason, Mawarbojh and other villages.

Bisens. The number of Bisen Rajputs in 1901 was 7,746 and the chief families are those of Shah Salempur in Deogaon, of Athaisi of Azamgarh, and of Ojhauli in Muhammadabad. The Bisens of Shah Salempur claim descent from one Jaideo who is said to have come from Majhauli in Gorakhpur and to have settled in Hadsa Dayalpur, having first driven out the Soiris. The Bisens of Athaisi are said to be sprung from Lal Sah, to whom they count back some twelve or thirteen generations, and who is said to have come from Tikari, a place near Dehli, and settled at Sehadah ; while the Bisens of Ojhauli state that their ancestor in the sixth generation came from Baripur in Jaunpur and was established at Ojhauli by one of the Rajas of Azamgarh. There are no large landed proprietors among the Bisens of Azamgarh, the majority of the clan being settled in proprietary communities. They are very evenly divided among the different tahsils.

Gautams. The Gautam Rajputs numbered 6,500 in 1901, and they are the tribe from which the family of the Rajas of Azamgarh is said to have sprung. Like all Gautams, they say that their forefathers came from Argal in Fatehpur but how or why, legend does not tell. In the *Ain-i-Akbari* Gautam Rajputs are mentioned

among the *zamindars* of pargana Nizamabad; and according the traditions of the Raja of Azamgarh the clan was later a well-established one at Mehnagar and in its vicinity. The clan is at present divided into several branches, namely the one represented by the Hindu Gautams of Gopalpur, Jigni and other villages; the Gautams of Dharwara; and the Gautams of Ladlapur. Besides these Gautam colonies there are several communities of Gautamias in Azamgarh. They claim to be Gautams, but are not acknowledged as such by other Rajputs. They appear to be Gautams who, from the inferior marriages of their daughters or other reasons, have fallen from a better status, or Rajputs of inferior stock who have adopted the patronymic of the more famous clan. All of them seem by tradition to connect themselves with Mehnagar and its vicinity. The largest of the Gautamia communities are settled at Lauhan in pargana Deogaon, at Laudah in pargana Bela-Daulatabad, and in the "Dasi" or ten Gautamia villages round Salemabad in pargana Chiriakot.

Next come Sombansis with 5,741 representatives. The largest colonies of this clan are to be found in parganas Atraulia and Kauria of tahsil Mahul and pargana Gopalpur of tahsil Sagri. The Sombansis of Kauria and Atraulia are known as Palwar Sombansis and they also occupy an extensive area in the district of Fyzabad. Their common ancestor was one Burhdeo or Patrajdeo. Coming from the west (Sandi in the Hardoi district) Burhdeo is said to have settled at Bandipur in Fyzabad, and thence, under the blessing of a Muhammadan saint of Surhurpur, to have extended his dominion over the territory now inhabited by his descendants, after conquering the Rajbhars. The Palwars count back sixteen or seventeen generations to Burhdeo, from whom sprang four houses. The first of these is the Rajghar, which is represented in Azamgarh by the Palwars of pargana Kauria and the north and east parts of Atraulia; and the second is the Bharinian, represented by the Palwars of Dadar, Bhatauli, Lohra and other *mahals* in the west of pargana Atraulia. Of the other two houses, one, the Ahirinian, is practically extinct, and the other has its chief seat at Bandipur and Tighra in Fyzabad. Being a large tribe and having among them a strong feeling of clannishness, the Palwar Sombansis have always

Sombansis.

had a great reputation for unruliness. Stories are told of how the Palwars used to resist the officers of the Oudh government, and in connection with one of these the ruins of the fort and town of Garha Haidarpur, close to Atraulia, is pointed out. It is said that, certain Palwar defaulters of Shimbhupur having been seized and murdered by the officer stationed in the fort, the whole clan rose, attacked and took the fort, murdered all the officials they captured, and plundered the town which has since been deserted. When Azamgarh was annexed in 1802, the Bharinian Palwars proved themselves a lawless community, and a small detachment of sepoys was maintained for several years at Gopalipatti to keep them in order; while during the Mutiny the tract inhabited by the Palwar Sombansis was the only portion of the district which was seriously disturbed. The Karmwar Sombansis are found chiefly in parganas Sagri, Ghosi and Muhammadabad. They hold a considerable area of land, of which they allege possession was taken by their ancestors, who came from Sandi to aid Raja Garakdeo of Dhanchhula in fighting the Rajbhars. All the Sombansis of Azamgarh are congregated in populous proprietary communities.

Chandels. The Chandels number 4,577 persons, and they all trace their origin to Kaparha in Jaunpur. They are most numerous in Ghosi and Azamgarh tahsils, the chief Chandel families in the district being those of Rudari in pargana Nizamabad and of Dubari in pargana Natthupur. The ancestor of the Chandels of Rudari was Chitai Sah ; but one tradition asserts that Rudari and its neighbourhood was occupied by Muhammadans before the Chandels obtained possession of it, and the remains of tombs and a mosque at Rudari bear out the tradition. The ancestor of the Natthupur Chandels, after leaving Kaparha, settled at Chauradih near Kaparwan in Gorakhpur. His descendants remained there for several generations, but were eventually attacked and overpowered by the Bisens of Majhauli ; and the only family that escaped took up its residence at Kolhuaban in pargana Natthupur. After Kolhuaban had been occupied, the large alluvial tract which now lies along the north face of pargana Natthupur was formed by the Ghagra and was occupied by the Chandels. Some of them still live on the high land at Kolhuaban but their chief villages are in the alluvial country.

In 1901 there were 4,223 Nikumbh Rajputs in the district, and the clan is practically confined to tahsil Muhammadabad. Their ancestor Budhsen is said to have come from Krakat in Jaunpur and they count back some eighteen generations to him. They are said to have driven out the Rajbhars, having been called into fight against them by a Brahman whose daughter one of the Rajbhars wished to marry. Nikumbhs.

The Dikhits numbered 4,080 souls in 1901, the vast majority being in Muhammadabad. The antecedents of this clan seem uncertain. Their first station was at Tari in pargana Qariat Mittu, in which, however, they were superseded by the Gautams of Gopalpur. They now exist in some communities in pargana Muhammadabad and represent themselves to be the remnant of a colony which once held twelve villages; of the latter they were forcibly dispossessed by the Birwars many generations ago. Dikhits.

There were 2,650 Chauhan Rajputs in Azamgarh in 1901, the majority being in parganas Atraulia and Sagri. Their ancestor is said to have come from Sambhal seventeen generations ago and to have settled at Holpur in *tappa* Akbarpur; but one of the houses sprung from him no longer holds proprietary rights in the district, while the other still exists, being represented by the Chauhans of Bhagatpur, Palia and other villages. The Chauhans rank high among the Rajput clans of the district, their communities being populous and generally well-off. Chauhans.

The only other Rajput clan in the district with over 2,000 representatives is the Rathor: in 1901 it numbered 2,061 souls, the majority of these being in Sagri. There is little to relate concerning them; they all appear to have sprung from one stock, the founders of which, displacing Rajbhars, settled at Panrari Panpur, pargana Sagri, it is said, nineteen or twenty generations ago. Rathors.

Of other Rajput clans whose number was specified in the census returns, the Raghubansis, Sikarwars, Raikwars, Panwars and Parihars are the most numerous. The Raghubansis are for the most part to be found in Deogaon, while the Sikarwars are chiefly in Muhammadabad and Azamgarh. The Raikwars occupy some villages in the south-west corner of *tappa* Pardaha, the principal of which is Dih: their ancestors came from Oudh, but the Other Rajputs.

circumstances of their migration are not known. The Panwars are for the most part in Azamgarh and the Parihars in Muhammadabad. There are several clans who were not separately specified at the census and deserve mention. The Udmatia Rajputs are said once to have held a hundred and fifty-six villages in the north of pargana Muhammadabad and the south of pargana Ghosi. Their ancestors, inhabitants of Udaipur, are said to have come from the west fifteen or sixteen generations ago with one of the early Muhammadan emperors and to have taken up their abode permanently in the neighbourhood of Bhira Indpur. Another important clan is that of Kausik Rajputs, of whom there are several colonies. The chief of these are Chuar and Kalichabad, Unchagaon in Deogaon and the colony settled in Gopalpur. Both regard themselves as belonging to the same stock and as descendants of ancestors who emigrated from Gola Gopalpur in Gorakhpur, Chiunta in pargana Gopalpur being represented as their first resting-place. The Deogaon Kausiks are said to have dispossessed Soiris, while those of Gopalpur supplanted Ujjain Rajputs, a few communities of whom reside in the pargana; but an independent tradition assigns to the Gopalpur Kausiks descent from three brothers who came from Baragaon in Ghazipur to reside among the Ujjains. Laikam Deo, the ancestor of the Kakan Rajputs settled in pargana Chiriakot, is said to have come from a place called Kapri Kedar, somewhere in the west, and to have driven out the Soiris; while the Kakans settled in pargana Natthupur appear to be an off-shoot of the colony in Chiriakot. The Singhel Rajputs allege that their ancestors emigrated from Sironj to Bheri Tal in Gorakhpur and having been driven out of the latter place finally settled in pargana Muhammadabad, where they became a powerful clan holding fifty-two villages. In *tappa* Khurson of pargana Deogaon is a colony of Hardwar Rajputs, whose ancestor, Dhondha, is said to have come from Hardwar and to have found the country unoccupied. The principal communities that have sprung from him are those of Beohara, Ahirauli, Harnidehra, Khurson Khas, Chandeora and Sarai Khurson.

Bhars and Soiris.

The Bhars are by common consent an aboriginal tribe, and according to tradition they once held not only the greater part of

Azamgarh but also most of Oudh and the Benares and Gorakhpur divisions. They were displaced by invading Rajput tribes and either absorbed or driven southwards across the Ganges. They are still, however, found in large numbers in the eastern districts, and at the census of 1901 Azamgarh contained 69,962 persons of this race forming 5·33 per cent. of the Hindus, chiefly in Deogaon, Mahul, Sagri and Muhammadabad. Of this number 252 were Rajbhars. Soiris are generally coupled with the Bhars as the original inhabitants of the country, but neither in 1891 nor in 1901 were there any of this caste recorded in Azamgarh.

Koeris. In Azamgarh, as in other parts of the Benares and Gorakhpur divisions, the Koeris take the place of the Kachhis and Muraos of other districts. They are market gardeners by profession, and devote themselves especially to the cultivation of vegetables, poppy and tobacco ; they appear to have no special skill in raising other crops. At the census of 1901 their total number was 60,475 or 4·60 per cent. of the Hindu population. They occur in greatest strength in the Sagri tahsil, but are more numerous in Mahul and Muhammadabad than in Azamgarh and Deogaon. In a few instances they hold a little land as proprietors.

Bhuinhars. Next on the list come Bhuinhars, who at the last census numbered 55,669 persons or 4·24 per cent. of the Hindus. They are to be found in all tahsils, but nearly half the total number are in Sagri, and nearly one half of the remainder are in Deogaon. According to their own tribal traditions, when Paras Ram destroyed the Kshatris the soil was given to the Brahmans, who in taking possession assumed the title of Bhuinhars. Their Brahman and Rajput neighbours generally insinuate that they are of mixed Brahman and Rajput breed, but there is no evidence in particular to support this view. Some Bhuinhars describe themselves as Brahmans and some describe themselves as Rajputs ; in popular estimation they share something of the sanctity attaching to a Brahman, while on the other hand their subdivisions are often the same as those of the well-known Rajput clans. All the Bhuinhars of Azamgarh claim to be of Brahman stock. Some profess ignorance of the original seat of their tribe ; some state vaguely that they came from the west ; others distinctly over

that their ancestors emigrated from the country across the Ghagra in Gorakhpur and Bihar. Of Bhuinhars who are of Brahman origin, there are several colonies in the district. The remote ancestors of the Bharadwaj Bhuinhars settled in *tappa* Shahpur of pargana Deogaon are said to have been Pandes and to have first settled in some place beyond the Sarju. Thence they moved to Chainpur Bhagwa, which is variously reported to be in Ghazipur or Shahabad. One Gajadhar Pande, the immediate ancestor of the Azamgarh Bharadwaj Bhuinhars, came from Chainpur Bhagwa and took service with a Soiri chief, whose lands his descendants now occupy. There is another colony of Bharadwaj Bhuinhars in *tappa* Guzara of pargana Nizamabad. Bhirgbans Bhuinhars hold the greater part of *tappa* Kotha in pargana Nizamabad. It is said that the first of their race who settled in this part of the country entered it with an officer of the ruling native government whom they aided in overcoming the Rajbhars and Soiris, and that they were natives of the neighbourhood of Dadrichhattar in Ballia. Kurhanian Bhuinhars occupy a large area in *tappas* Gontha and Chakesar of pargana Ghosi and in the western part of Natthupur. The ancestor from whom the clan is said to have sprung was Golhan Bhatt, a Gujarati Brahman, to whom, it is alleged, "Raja Banar" gave a grant of land in the tract of country where the Kurhanian Bhuinhars are now settled. The Sandil Bhuinhars are said to have sprung from Raisu Rai, who emigrated from the neighbourhood of Dehli, twenty-five generations ago. Their principal *mahal* is Mandi Sipah in pargana Ghosi, but the clan seems to have at one time occupied most of *tappa* Kurahani and part of *tappa* Gontha in that pargana. Its territory has been encroached upon by the Kurhanians, for the former occupation of Dohri and its vicinity by the Sandils is marked by the old mud fort of Sutihar, which is acknowledged to have belonged to them, and by a patch of land near the fort. Of Bhuinhar and Rajput clans which appear to have had a common source, there are several examples in Azamgarh. In *tappas* Athraha and Didarganj of pargana Mahul many villages are still held by Gargs. All of them claim descent from the same ancestor, the father of

two brothers named Chakar Sah and Dhan Sah, and admit community of origin. But one party are Bhuinhars of the Garg *got*, the other Gargbansi Rajputs of the same *got*. The Bhuinhars state that their ancestors were Sarwaria Brahmans, Shukuls of Mamkhor, who emigrated from the land beyond the Ghagra many generations ago and putting off their priestly attributes took service with a Rajput chief named Asaldeo. The Rajput portion states that its ancestors, having emigrated from the west, settled first near Ajodhya and thence moved into Mahul in the service of Asaldeo. In pargana Mau and the east of pargana Muhammadabad is a large colony of Donwars: some are Bhuinhars and some are Rajputs, but both admit descent from a common ancestor. The Rajputs say that they came across the Ghagra from Don Darauli in Saran. They allege that they are descended from Mayur Bhatt, the mythical ancestor of the Bisen Raja of Salempur Majhauli, and are also connected with a saint or *mun* named Donacharj. The Bhuinhars allege that they came from Raindih, a place near Dehli; but they admit their connection with the Donwars of Tirhut and Saran, and speak of themselves as the descendants of Jham Bhatt whom they connect in a vague way with Mayur Bhatt. In parganas Sagri and Muhammadabad are large communities of Bhuinhars and Rajputs who call themselves Birwars. Each set disclaims any connection with the other. The original seat of the Bhuinhar portion in Azamgarh is said to have been Jiuli in *tappa* Barda of pargana Deogaon. The Brahman ancestor of the tribe is said to have come from the neighbourhood of Kanauj; but its different branches are not unanimous as to his name and their pedigree, nor have they any tradition of the circumstances under which they became possessed of their lands in Azamgarh. The Rajput Birwars say they are Tomars, and were led from Bernagar, a place near Dehli, to this part of the country by one of their chiefs named Garakdeo, who died in *sambat* 1512 or 1455 A.D. There are both Gautam Bhuinhars and Gautam Rajputs settled in the neighbourhood of Mehnagar, but they ignore each other. The Gautam Rajputs say that they came from Argal, while the Gautam Bhuinhars claim to be descended from Misr Brahmans of the Sarwar. Those in Nizamabad pargana say they are descendants

of Bhilam Sah, who received a grant of land in Azamgarh from Raja Banar; while those in *tappa* Chenchul of pargana Sagri claim descent from Singhar Misr, who is said to have received a grant of land from a Hindu chief named Garakdeo.

Lunias.

The Lunias in 1901 numbered 52,143 persons or 3·97 per cent. of the Hindu inhabitants. They are to be found in all parganas, but are far more numerous in Sagri and Muhammadabad than elsewhere. The Lunias are the traditional salt and saltpetre manufacturers of the eastern districts, and they are found in largest numbers in the three districts of the Gorakhpur division and in Ballia. They cultivate a large amount of land as tenants; and eke out their earnings by digging and earthwork. They are perhaps the most efficient navvies in the province, and they migrate in large numbers to railway and other large works outside the district wherever these are being carried on.

Other Hindu castes.

Among the other Hindu castes there are a number which call for mention. Numerically the strongest of these are Kahars, 49,023; Banias, 38,112; Kurmis, 35,839; Lohars, 28,482; Kumhars, 27,512; Telis, 26,162; Kewats, 19,163; Pasis, 18,021; Kalwars, 17,465; Kayasths, 15,758; Dhobis, 14,515; Nais, 12,182; and Mallahs, 11,805. The Kahars are to be found in all tahsils, engaged in personal service, general labour, and to a small extent in cultivation. Over half the Banias are Kandus, a caste which seems to have some affinity with Bharbhunjas. They often parch grain, but they practise many occupations in connection with the preparation and selling of minor articles of food, and their exact status is not easily determined. Banias are numerous in Sagri but comparatively few in Deogaon, though they are found in all tahsils. The Agarwal, Barnawal and Kasaundhan Banias own a considerable amount of land, besides the Kandus. The Kurmis like the Banias are numerous in Sagri and scarce in Deogaon, nearly half their total number being in the former tahsil. They are both landholders and cultivators, and belong chiefly to the Dhelphora and Sankhwar subdivisions. A subdivision of this tribe which is peculiar to Azamgarh and deserves notice is the Mal. The Mal-Kurmis are only to be found in pargana Natthupur, and they claim descent from Mayur Bhatt, who has been already

mentioned. According to the story, Mayur Bhatt, leaving Benares in search of a kingdom settled first at Kankradih in pargana Natthupur. He there begot a son by a woman of inferior caste, and this son was the ancestor of the Mal Kurmis. Lohars or blacksmiths, Kumhars or potters and Telis or oilmen are to be found in all tahsils: and they usually cultivate a little land as well as following their traditional occupations. Kewats, who are usually boatmen but also cultivators, are most numerous in Mahul, where two-thirds of the entire number are to be found; and Pasis, who are cultivators, watchmen, and general labourers are scattered all through the district. Kalwars are more numerous in Azamgarh than in any other district of the province except Gorakhpur. Besides being distillers of liquor, they are usually large dealers in sugar, and are congregated in Azamgarh in connection with the sugar trade. The Kayasths of Azamgarh are mostly Srivastabs; they are well represented in all tahsils, but are absolutely most numerous in Sagri. They hold a considerable amount of land as landlords; and some of them, notably the Gaur Kayasths of Nizamabad, are Sikhs by religion. Dhobis and Nais are occupational castes and are to be found in all tahsils; while Mallahs who are professional boatmen are almost entirely residents of tahsils Muhammadabad and Sagri.

Of the other Hindu castes, those that in 1901 possessed over 5,000 members apiece were Barais, Barhais, Gadariyas, Sonars and Khatiks. They are too well-known to call for further mention. Next to them come Atits, Baris, Dharkars, Halwais, Kamkars and Bhats, their numbers exceeding 2,000 in each case. Atits are a religious sect rather than a caste, and the name is frequently synonymous with Sanyyasi. Baris are domestic servants and labourers, their special industry being the manufacture of the leaf-platters used at feasts. Dharkars are only numerous in the Benares and Gorakhpur divisions and are a sub-caste of the eastern Doms, an aboriginal tribe of whom 970 were separately recorded in Azamgarh in 1901. Halwais are sweetmeat makers by profession and generally recognised as a sub-caste of Banias; while Kamkars are Kahars, whose special occupation is domestic service in the families of Rajas and rich Hindus. Bhats need no further mention. Of uncommon castes, there are 245 Chains in Azamgarh, a cultivating

and fishing caste allied to that of Mallahs, which is better represented in Basti than in any other district. The only other caste which calls for mention is the Thathera. There were 1,716 Thatheras in Azamgarh in 1901, nearly half of whom were in tahsil Sagri. This number actually exceeds that found in any other district of the province, and its largeness may to be due to the existence of a somewhat obscure industry at Umlipatti in tahsil Sagri, where *lotas* and similar brass domestic utensils are locally made.

The Muhammadan population is both absolutely and relatively most numerous in Azamgarh and Muhammadabad tahsils, while in Deogaon the Musalmans are comparatively few. Over 92 per cent. of the whole number are members of the Sunni sect, over 4 per cent. are Shias, and the remainder followers of minor or unspecified sects. The district has no conspicious religious buildings erected by Muhammadans, but there are a number of *dargahs* in the district, such as those of Salar Masaud at Bhagatpur and Malik Tahir at Mau, which are objects of considerable veneration. The character of the Musalman population, however, in Mau, Mubarakpur and Kopaganj is obstinate and fanatical, and from time to time the slumbering religious hostility that exists between the Muhammadans and Hindus at these places results in serious riots and affrays regarding the slaughter of cattle—a subject which will be treated of in a future chapter. According to the returns of last census, the Muhammadan population was made up of members of 37 different tribes and castes, excluding subdivisions, while 1,008 persons were shown as belonging to no specified division. Of these castes, however, few are numerically important. Only four occur in a strength exceeding ten thousand, four had more than 5,000 representatives and eleven over 1,000. Most of the castes have their Hindu counterparts, and consequently call for no further mention.

First and foremost come the Julahas or weavers, of whom there were 54,238 or 25·27 per cent. of the whole number of Musalmans. No less than 30,881 of them belonged to the Muhammadabad tahsil, while 9,412 were to be found in Azamgarh. The majority of the Julahas follow their ancestral occupation of weaving country cloth, while in some instances they have betaken

themselves to agriculture. They are, however, for the most part concentrated in the towns of Azamgarh, Mau, Mubarakpur and Kopaganj, the centres of the cloth-weaving industry in the district; and like their kinsmen in other districts they are a turbulent race, and it is to them that the conflicts between Hindus and Musalmans that have from time to time disturbed the peace of the district are generally attributed. Akin to Julahas are the Behnas or cotton-carders of whom there were at the last census 14,741, over half of this number being in Sagri and Mahul tahsils. This caste is common to all districts of the United Provinces, and its members are frequently engaged in cultivation in addition to their hereditary occupation. There were also 873 Rangrez, for the most part in tahsil Muhammadabad, their occupation being the dyeing of yarn and cloth which is subsidiary to that of cloth manufacture.

Sheikhs.

The Sheikhs occupy the second place, but they were numerically almost as strong as Julahas and exceeded them in all tahsils but Deogaon and Muhammadabad. Sheikhs numbered 54,144 persons or 25·23 per cent. of the Musalmans, and nearly two thirds of them belong to the Azamgarh and Sagri tahsils. Of the many subdivisions, the Siddiqis are the strongest, numbering 19,033; and then come Qurreshis with 16,967 representatives. There were 7,460 Ansaris, 1,699 Usmanis, 1,634 Abbasis and 5,410 of unspecified subdivisions. Sheikhs hold a large proportion of the land, and there are several well known families among them. The Hanafi Sheikhs of Deogaon, who are Shias, have long been resident in the pargana; members of the house occasionally held the office of *qazi* and in later times they were hereditary *qanungos* of the pargana. Those of Nizamabad town are partly Sunnis and partly Shias. One set of them are Usmanis and they trace back their ancestry to a saint named Jamal-ud-din Rumi. The first of their race who settled in Azamgarh was Makhdum Nasir-ud-din. Members of the family, of whom one of the best remembered is Muhammad Ghaus, held the office of *qazi* of the pargana; and in the time of Aurangzeb one of the family, Abul Farah, was *qazi* of Gujerat, while another, Abul Barkat, was *qazi* of Gorakhpur. The Sheikhs of Jahanianpur in pargana Nizamabad are descended from Shah Mansur, a disciple of Sheikh Abdullah Kadiri,

who in turn was a disciple in the family of Makhdum Jahanian Bukhari. Hence, when Shah Mansur came to Azamgarh and purchased a tract of land, he named it Jahanianpur ; and that village with Rasulpur is held revenue free by his Shia descendants under a grant made to them by the rulers of Oudh. Shah Mansur's tomb is a place of pilgrimage of some local celebrity and a fair is held at it once a year on the anniversary of his death. At Kalandarpur in pargana Nizamabad is a family of Sunni Sheikhs, who hold their land revenue free. Their ancestor was a saint, Shah Fateh Kalandar, who settled at Kalandarpur in the middle of the seventeenth century. A yearly fair is held at his tomb in the village, and many stories are told about his supernatural powers. The ancestral Sheikhs of Nurpur and Munawarpur in pargana Mahul are Abbasis, the descendants of Makhdum Shah Nasir-ul-Haq, who settled at Qasba Nigun and died in 1521 A.D.; while those at Barauna in the same pargana are Siddiqis and trace their descent to one Nizam-ud-din Aulia. The ancestor of the Siddiqi Sheikhs of Bhatmila in pargana Ghosi was a well known saint, Makhdum Shah Abdullah Shuttar, and he is said to have taken up his residence at Asthana Bhatmila in the middle of the fifteenth century. A branch of the family is settled at Chhinhin in pargana Sagri, to which place Shah Sultan Maqsud Shuttari, in the seventh or eighth generation from Shah Abdullah, removed from Bhatmila. Shah Sultan Maqsud was also a noted saint, tales about whose sanctity and supernatural powers are still current. There is a family of Usmani Sheikhs settled at Ghosi town, who are descended from Husain Ispahani. The latter came to Ghosi in the time of Firoz Tughlak ; and one of his descendants, Sheikh Ghulam Nakshbandi, had a great reputation for learning and settled in Lucknow. One of the oldest Musalman families in the district is that of the Abbasi Sheikhs of Chiriakot. The reputed founder of the family is Makhdum Sheikh Ismail ; and the office of *qazi* was generally held by members of the family. The ancestor of the Faruqi Sheikhs of Walidpur Bhira in Pargana Muhammadabad was Makhdum Sheikh Musa'id of Jaunpur who received a grant of land at Walidpur from Sultan Husain of Jaunpur, and by the advice of Saiyid Ajal Sadrjahan sent his sons Maruf and Ali

to settle there. The Sheikhs of Bibipur in Pargana Natthupur are Ansaris, and are descended from one Sheikh Khondamir. Other Sheikh families are found in Mau, Mubarakpur, Koiriapar and Kharauti in pargana Muhammadabad. Many of these families, however, are reduced to poverty, though many still exist as petty shareholders in villages.

Pathans call for little detailed notice. At the census of 1901 they numbered 26,984 persons or 12·57 per cent. of the Musalmans: over one-third of the total reside in Azamgarh tahsil, while of the remainder the majority are in Mahul and Sagri. The best represented clan is the Yusufzai; and after this come the Ghori, Lodi, Kakar and Bangash. Of the chief Pathan families of the district, the ancestors of those at Deogaon are said to have come to Azamgarh in the imperial service from Sambhal about the beginning of the sixteenth century. The Sagri communities date their settlement to still older times, namely the thirteenth and fourteenth centuries; while those of Adri near Mau are descended from Pathans who were once employed in the imperial service at Mau. Pathans.

Owing to their dislike of the name, the Zamindaras were not separately recorded at the census of 1901, and it is not possible to give the numbers of this large and important portion of the Muhammadan population of Azamgarh. The Zamindaras are also known as Rautaras, and form a distinctively marked and well known class. At the settlement concluded in 1908 they held over 6 per cent. of the total area of the district as landholders and a like quantity of the holdings area as cultivators. At the census of 1891 Rautaras were treated as a sub-caste of Sheikhs, and it may be concluded that the majority of the Zamindaras have been enumerated under the head of Sheikhs; possibly too some have been shown as Pathans. The origin of the word Rautara has not been ascertained. The Zamindaras admit themselves to be descended from Hindu converts to Islam. Those who do not belong to their class allege that the converts were of low caste, and some suppose them to be converted Rajbhars and Soiris. There are, however, families among the Zamindaras whose traditions point to their ancestors having been Brahmans or Rajputs at the time of their conversion, and who still retain the appearance Zamindaras.

of Nau-muslims of those castes, though from intermarriage and other circumstances they are now reckoned Zamindaras. There are many old Zamindara communities in pargana Nizamabad ; and it is probably these people who are meant by *Rahmatullahis*—the word used in the *Ain-i-Akbari* to describe the landholders of pargana Nizamabad. The period at which and the circumstances under which the Zamindaras embraced the faith of Islam are not clear. Very few of them have any other tradition than that their ancestors were converted under the teaching of some Muslim saint ; and none carry back their descent for more than fifteen generations. The Zamindaras are quiet and orderly people, and in this respect form a marked contrast to the fanatical Julahas. In habit and character they are frugal ; while as cultivators they are industrious and skilful. Where they have not been impoverished by the excess of their own numbers and the subdivision of landed property, they are well-off. Their women, except in the case of those who have pretentions to gentility, are not kept confined in the zenana, and, though they do not engage in work, they may often be seen carrying food to the men in the field. Owing to their industry and enterprise, their landed possessions have materially increased during the last thirty years. A number of them are educated and have obtained good positions in the professions and in government service, and the class as a whole is thriving and prosperous.

Nais and Faqirs.

Omitting Behnas, of whom mention has been made above, we come next to the Hajjams, of whom there were 9,412. The Musalman Nais are usually known as Hajjams and are the counterpart of their Hindu brethren, who follow the same occupation, namely that of barbers. They are most numerous, as might be expected, in Muhammadabad and Sagri. In 1901 there were 7,727 Faqirs or religious mendicants in Azamgarh : and to this number may be added 899 Jogis, 125 Sains and Kamkalis, who are all Muhammadan ascetics similar to Faqirs. Faqirs both own and cultivate land.

Saiyids.

Saiyids come next with 7,605 representatives, the majority being in tahsils Azamgarh, Sagri and Muhammadabad. The Saiyids of the district hold as landlords more land than any other Musalman

subdivision; and there are some well known Saiyid settlements in the district. The bulk of those whose sub-caste was specified at the census were Husainis. The Saiyids of Deogaon are the descendants of one Muhammad Baghdadi, and have long been settled in the village, of which, in the words of an old *sanad*, they were the *zamindars* and *muqaddams*. All of them are Shias by sect, having, like other families in their part of the province, abandoned the Sunni doctrines in the time of Nawab Asaf-ud-daula. Those of Sarai Mir in pargana Nizamabad are descended from the saint Ali Ashikan who died in 1548 A.D.; and there are other families at Patar, Jianpur and Khatibpur in pargana Sagri, and at Baragaon in pargana Ghosi. The Saiyids of Muhammadabad belong to the family of Saiyid Hamid-ud-din and have been settled at Muhammadabad for many generations. These Saiyids are Shias by sect, and they appear to have been in favour at the court of Oudh; for many of them held land revenue-free at the time of the cession and for a period after it. The best known Saiyid family, however, in the district is that of Mahul, though it has no connection now in Mahul Khas, the present representatives being residents of Powai, Chamanwan and Amari in Mahul pargana. The ancestor of the family was one Saiyid Ahsan, called Akhund Mir, who is said to have lived in the time of the emperor Akbar and to have come in some official capacity to the part of the country where his family was eventually established. The current tradition is that he was appointed to keep Rajbhars in order in the district east of Surhurpur, and that he took up his residence at Saidpur, a village on the west of pargana Mahul. Nothing is known of the history of the earlier generations that followed Akhund Mir; but Sultan Jahan, sixth in descent from him, had three sons from whom were descended the Saiyids of Powai, of Mahul Khas, and of Chamanwan and Amari, respectively. In 1731 A. D. by an imperial decree issued by Kamar-ud-din Khan under the advice of Saadat Khan,* certain confiscated villages in *tappas* Sumbhadih, Kharaunda and Bhopaura of pargana Surhurpur, which had belonged to a rebel

*Saadat Khan visited Azamgarh in 1730-31 A.D.

named Mir Muhammad Malik, were conferred upon Khan Jahan and Mukarram Jahan, grandsons of Aman Jahan; and in 1736 A. D. Khan Jahan obtained a contract for the revenue of *tappas* Sumbhadih and Kharaunda. The modern *tappa* of Powai was formed mostly out of *tappas* Sumbhadih and Kharaunda; and it was apparently after the Saiyids had obtained the revenue contract that they settled at Powai, where they threw up the large mud fort, the ruins of which still exist. The rise of the Mahul branch was similar and its position was strengthened by marriage alliances with the Rajas of Azamgarh.

Shamshad Jahan, grandson of Kan Jahan, attained to considerable local influence; he was locally known as the Raja of Mahul, and in 1750 A. D. he led a contingent of horse and foot to join the force raised by Sahib Zaman in the struggle between Safdar Jang and Ahmad Khan Bangash. At the time of the cession in 1801, the head of the family was Raja Salamat Khan, but the fortunes of family were much broken. His *taluqa* was broken up at the settlement of 1808, and the Raja was only permitted to retain out of it the estates which had formerly been his *nankar*. Iradat Khan, the last of the Mahul Rajas, was a man of wealth and influence. He lived for the most part at Garha Mubarakpur in Jaunpur. In the disturbances of 1857 he was summarily tried and executed for rebellion; his property was confiscated; and his son Muzaffar Jahan, though he was at first included in the proclamation of amnesty, was subsequently convicted and imprisoned. After his release he received a compassionate allowance, but his brother Abbas Khan was given a pension by the Government. The Mahul estates, however, were conferred by the Government upon Messrs. Dunne and Martin and on Qazi Inayat Husain for services during the disturbances.

Rajputs.

Next come Rajputs of whom 6,451 were recorded in 1901. The Muhammadan Rajputs of Azamgarh belong to a variety of different clans, and the majority of them reside in the tahsils of Muhammadabad, Sagri and Mahul. According to the returns, they are for the most part converted Chauhan, Bais and Panwar Rajputs. Those of them that are Chauhans are found in largest numbers in Azamgarh, Deogaon and Mahul; while

the Bais preponderate in Sagri. Nearly all the Panwars are in Muhammadabad and both in that tahsil and Deogaon there are Bisens.

Other Musalman castes.

The remaining Musalman castes which occur in number exceeding one thousand are, Darzis, 4,922 ; Qassabs or butchers, 2,840 ; Telis, 2,127 ; Bhangis, 1,998 ; Dhobis, 1,900 ; Mughals, 1,676 ; Bhats, 1,530 ; Kuneras, 1,492 ; Dafalis, 1,227 ; Kunjras, 1,200 ; and Nats, 1,018. Among the Mughals are perhaps included some Zamindaras, those of this caste who claim descent from an ancestor converted by a Mughal occasionally so describing themselves. Kuneras are the Musalman counterpart of Barhais and they are joiners by profession, their speciality being the manufacture of *huqqa* or pipe stems ; while Dafalis are beggars and musicians of low repute. In 1901 there were 465 Raqis or Iraqis enumerated in Azamgarh, nearly the whole residing in Sagri and Muhammadabad. They occur in the Benares, Gorakhpur and Fyzabad divisions alone, and according to their own account are immigrants from Iraq, though in colour and physiognomy they resemble the lower orders of Hindus and are generally believed to be of indigenous origin, akin to Kalwars, the name being derived from *araq* or arrack. They are generally engaged in trade and money lending, and many of them are in prosperous circumstances.

Occupations.

As Azamgarh possesses no towns of any great size and no industrial centres, it is only natural to find that the majority of the inhabitants of the district are dependent on agriculture as a means of subsistence. According to the returns of the last census, the agricultural population amounted to 61·03 per cent. of the whole. This includes dependants, but not the large section of the community which combines agriculture as a subsidiary occupation with other pursuits. Of the remainder 17·38 per cent. represented the industrial classes. Of this number 37·19 per cent. were engaged in the supply of articles of food and drink, 28·79 per cent. in the manufacture of textile fabrics, 9·71 per cent. in that of glass and earthenware, 8·53 per cent. in metal work and the like, and 8·08 per cent. in wood and cane work ; while the only other well represented occupation was that of leather work. Unskilled labour, other than agricultural, contributed

12·06 per cent.; personal service 3·63 per cent.; commerce, transport and storage, 2·23 per cent.; and Government service 1·38 per cent. The professional population, a very mixed class, made up 1·34 per cent., and the remaining ·95 per cent. consisted of persons without regular employment, including those of independent means, mendicants and convicts.

Language and literature.

The common language of the people is the Bihari form of eastern Hindi, and the particular dialect spoken in Azamgarh is known as the Purbi or western variety of Bhojpuri, itself a subdivision of Bihari. The boundary between Awadhi and western Bhojpuri runs through the district of Jaunpur, so that it is natural to find that the latter is the common speech of the inhabitants of Ghazipur and of the majority of those of Jaunpur. In Gorakhpur to the north, however, the northern variety of Bhojpuri is spoken, and in Ballia to the east, the eastern variety. The distinctions are small and all three blend into one another without any clear line of demarcation. The returns of the last census show that 94·18 per cent. of the inhabitants spoke Bihari and 5·8 per cent. Hindustani or Urdu, the latter being used among the Musalmans of the towns and the better educated classes. Other forms of speech used include English, Bengali, Panjabi and Gujarati, but these of course were found among immigrants to the district. No records exist regarding the indigenous literature of Azamgarh in past times nor have its inhabitants ever been famed for their literary attainments. At the present day there is only one inhabitant of Azamgarh whose literary work enjoys any celebrity. This is Pandit Ajodhya Singh of Nizamabad, a *qanungo* and landholder who has translated and edited a number of Hindi books such as the *Rukmani Pirinai*, *Pradumna Vijai*, *Updesh Kusum* and others. There are no newspapers published in the district, and there is but one printing press at Azamgarh known as the *Mahtab* press. Nor have any literary societies been founded.

Proprietary tenures.

The tenures in which the revenue-paying proprietors of Azamgarh hold their estates are the same as those common throughout the province of Agra. The proprietors hold direct unrestricted control over their estates, subject to the payment of revenue and rates to the Government and subject to the law for the time

being in force relating to partition, tenants and similar matters. The only exceptions to this tenure occur in 38 small villages, two-thirds of which are situated in pargana Atraulia. These form parts of large *mahals*, and the proprietary right in the villages is divided between the *malguzars* or superior proprietors and the *mushakhsidars* or inferior proprietors who hold the villages entire under the *malguzars* on permanent hereditary leases, which are subject to revision, as regards the amount to be paid, at settlement. In all but one or two cases the inferior proprietors pay the revenue and rates together with a *malikana* allowance to the superior proprietors, and the latter pay the Government demand into the treasury. In the same pargana and in a few villages elsewhere will be found *shankalpdars*, or owners of specific plots which have been given them as religious grants subject to the payment of a quit-rent. Where these holders have been allowed rights of transfer, they have been also recorded at the recent settlement as inferior proprietors and the land appertaining to them has been treated as *sir*, the rent to be paid by them having been judicially determined for the term of settlement. But with these exceptions there are no intermediate tenures between the proprietors of the villages and the large body of tenants who in common with them cultivate the soil.

As elsewhere in the province the distribution of the land among the proprietors is primarily by the *mauza*, by which is meant a parcel of land which has a separate name in the Government revenue records and has known limits. The division is an old one and dates from times long antecedent to the British conquest. Normally the number of *mauzas* never changes, but occasionally separate *mauzas* are for administrative purposes amalgamated to form a single unit and modifications are thus from time to time introduced. It can, however, be easily understood that such amalgamation is only possible in rare cases; for it can only be carried out when not only the proprietors but their rights are identical in both of the *mauzas* which are intended for amalgamation. All the lands included within a *mauza* belong normally to a single proprietor or to one body of proprietors; but the simplicity of the *mauzawar* distribution of the land has

been in some cases, most of which occur in pargana Deogaon, infringed by the inclusion within the boundaries of one *mauza* of fields belonging to another. Such fields are known as *chalani* or *dakhli-khariji* fields, and their origin is various. In most cases the arrangement seems to have been made when the branches of a tribe or family carried out a *mauzawar* division of the common property on separation, a member of one branch retaining his right to particular fields even though the latter happened to fall within the area allotted to another branch of the tribe. It also appears to have arisen from the transfer by sale, mortgage or exchange of little plots of land by members of former or existing communities to members of other communities. The revenue-paying unit, that is the parcel of lands separately assessed to revenue is the *mahal*. The simplest *mahal* is that which coincides in area with a single *mauza*; but often subdivision has been responsible for the formation of more than one *mahal* out of a single *mauza*. But a peculiarity of Azamgarh is that in a large number of cases elaboration has been carried much further. Thus it frequently happens that two or more entire *mauzas*, or parts of two or more *mauzas*, or one or more entire *mauzas* and parts of one or more *mauzas*, are grouped together in a single *mahal*. This system of grouping has given rise to a large number of complex *mahals*. The *mauzas* or parts of *mauzas* which constitute the *mahal* are not necessarily contiguous to one another; they may be miles apart; and there are some *mahals* in Azamgarh whose lands are scattered in a number of *mauzas* over an area of twenty or twenty-five square miles. Such *mahals* occur mostly in *tappa* Kuba of pargana Deogaon, in *taraf* Utraha of pargana Belhabans, in pargana Kauria and in *tappa* Chakesar of pargana Ghosi; but they are found in nearly all parganas. In the localities just mentioned the number of *mahals* among which the lands of *mauzas* are distributed is as high as eleven, and there are *mauzas* in which the share belonging to some of the *mahals* consists of less than ten acres. In one case in pargana Belhabans the land belonging to one coparcenary community extends through as many as 28 villages. All the principal complex *mahals* are of old standing and have generally owed their existence to the partition of a common estate which

consisted of several *mauzas* ; but it appears that in some cases they originated from an owner in one *mahal* adding to his ancestral *mahal* the lands in another *mauza* of which he had gained possession by purchase or other means. The arrangement by complex *mahals* is indispensable for the collection of revenue ; but in the system of village records separate papers are maintained for each *mauza*, details regarding the various *mahals* whose lands are comprised within the limits of each *mauza* being at the same time recorded. Then when the revenue falls due, the demand recoverable from the co-sharers of these scattered properties is calculated in a separate account for each *mahal*. This document is known as the *bachhbandi*, and its proper maintenance is the foundation of good revenue administration in Azamgarh.

Khuntaiti tenures.

The basis of proprietary right is ancestral right ; at least this is the case in so many estates in Azamgarh that tenures having any other basis may be said to be anomalous ; for the people never forget their right by descent from a common ancestor. In some estates or *mauzas* in which circumstances, to be presently narrated, have led to the establishment of a different scale of interests, ancestral right is still kept up in the *sayar* and waste, occasionally even in the common cultivated land. Ancestral shares are expressed in fractions of a unit which in this district is almost always the rupee. But the fractional parts into which the rupee is distributed vary considerably in different estates and parganas. They are very numerous and complex and allusion has already been made to them in Chapter II ; sixty-five different methods of distribution were recorded by Mr. Reid at the settlement of 1877 ; but even this list was far from being exhaustive, and it would be idle to recapitulate the methods here. The introduction of a scale of interest different from ancestral right for the whole or for a portion of the estate has probably been due in nearly all cases to exceptional incidents, and these incidents may have occurred either before or after the cession of the district to the British. The principal cause of a change in the scale of rights after the cession was the sale of estates for arrears of revenue, and the recovery of their estates by the old proprietors through private arrangement with the auction-purchaser. In some instances the whole community clubbed together to buy him out,

each sharer subscribing, not according to his ancestral right, but according to his ability. Then the amount subscribed became the measure of future rights, and the shares were expressed in fractions of a unit, the rupee, which represented the total of the purchase-money. In other cases, one or a few of the leading co-sharers or of their connections effected the purchase, and members of the brotherhood who were not parties to it were subsequently admitted to all or part of their hereditary shares on paying up the purchase money. Some did so to the full extent of their ancestral right, while others did not pay at all or only paid in part. In such cases the purchasers retained the shares which were not paid for, and a new scale of interests in fractions of a unit that represented the purchase-money was introduced. But whatever be the unit and however modified, all *mauzas* or *mahals* in which shares are expressed in fractions of a given unit, are in common parlance known as *khuntaiti*, and are commonly contrasted with *mahals* or *mauzas* in which shares are expressed in areas ; the latter are known as *bighadam*.

Bighadam tenures.

The *bighadam* is the commonest form of abnormal tenure in Azamgarh : it is generally supposed to have been of spontaneous growth, each member of the community having been allowed by custom to cultivate as much land as he could, without reference to ancestral right. The land which he cultivated became his several property ; he paid his quota of the revenue on it, and it was recorded in the village papers as his ancestral share. It is abundantly clear, however, from the fact that ancestral right is still preserved as a principal of distribution of some of the property in some *bighadam* estates that this has not been the history of the tenure in all cases. The tenure probably arose in some instances from the confusion in affairs resulting from mishaps to the community or individual members of it; for example bad seasons or an excessive revenue assessment may have led to the temporary abandonment of the estate by some members of the community and to the recovery of the revenue from those who remained. Possession thereafter would deviate from right by descent, though the latter might be preserved if the losses of those who had borne the brunt of the misfortunes were made good by the defaulters. Instances are not uncommon in which right by descent being the common law of the estate, certain house-

holds and *pattis* have, in addition to their ancestral shares, retained land or received it out of the common property in compensation for services rendered to the community. But in the absence of the defaulters, and in the case of their inability to indemnify the stronger sharers, or in the determination of the latter not to part with the land they had occupied, possession became the law of the community, as far at least as most of the cultivated or revenue-paying land was concerned, possibly as regards the whole property; and a *bighadam* tenure was the result.

Mauzas and *mahals.*

It has been already remarked that the number of *mauzas* only varies under exceptional circumstances: it is otherwise with that of *mahals*. Partition being by the law of the province allowed under certain conditions, *mauzas* are being constantly subdivided and new revenue units or *mahals* produced. At the recent settlement concluded in 1908 there were altogether 5,648 villages in Azamgarh, including the 102 villages transferred from Gorakhpur in 1904. If the portion of a complex *mahal* in each village through which it extends be treated as a separate *mahal*, these villages were then divided into 11,706 *mahals*. Of the latter 1,260 were held in single and 5,615 in joint *zamindari* tenure. The *pattidari* is a very common tenure and is found in both forms, perfect and imperfect. Owing to the differences recognised in the basis of ancestral right, however, it is further necessary to subdivide the *pattidari* estates into *khuntaiti* and *bighadam*. The latter is the name given in Azamgarh to the tenure known as *bhaiyachara* in the Doab districts. These have arisen in various ways, but their general distinguishing feature is that the division of land is based on ancestral possession of specific areas as distinct from strictly genealogical shares. At the settlement there were 1,347 perfect *pattidari* estates in the district, of which 1,197 were *khuntaiti* and 150 *bighadam*. On the same occasion the imperfect *pattidari* estates numbered 3,443, of which no less than 2,978 were *khuntaiti* and 465 were *bighadam*. It may be noted that there were no *bighadam* estates in the villages transferred from Gorakhpur, and there were only nine, all imperfect *pattidari*, in the 177 permanently settled *mauzas*. The number of *mahals* in Azamgarh is thus very large, but the revenue administration has in practice to

deal with a considerably smaller number than is here recorded; for under the system of complex *mahals*, several of those for which separate records have necessarily to be kept up are grouped together, and thus in the temporarily settled portion of the district the number is reduced from 11,323 to only 6,585 *mahals*.

Proprietors.

It will be seen from the figures here given that the largest number of estates is held in joint *zamindari* tenure, while that of those held in single *zamindari* also is considerable. It must not, however, be inferred from this that most of the estates in Azamgarh are owned by single proprietors or by a single family living in common. It is altogether the exception to find a whole *mauza* which is held either in single or in joint *zamindari* tenure; and the *mahals* of those classes are mostly so held as the result of the partition of coparcenary estates. It may, therefore, with truth be said that Azamgarh is essentially a district of small proprietors, and the most remarkable feature with regard to them is their number. Counting each individual once only in however many *mahals* and *mauzas* he may hold, their number is no less than 85,137, while the average share of cultivated land falling to each is 9·3 acres only. The smallest average holdings are found in parganas Qariat Mittu, 4·7 acres; Deogaon, 5·8 acres; and Chiriakot, 6·1 acres. The largest are in Mahul, 14·5 acres; and Atraulia, 14·1 acres; but in these there are several large estates owned by single proprietors, and in no other pargana is the average over 10 acres. A no less important characteristic of the proprietors is their tenacious attachment to the land which they have inherited from their forefathers; and instances are not wanting in which auction purchasers and decree holders have been quite unable to obtain more than nominal possession of estates, to which they have been determined as entitled after a long course of fiercely contested litigation. But the natural consequence of their number and the pressure on the land involved thereby has engendered an irresistible tendency towards separation and subdivision. In Azamgarh, whatever the presumption of the law may be, the presumption of experience is that first cousins are separate rather than joint, and that adult brothers are at least as likely to be separate as joint. This tendency and the friction and mistrust produced in the course of the division lead to a lamentable amount of quarrelling and

litigation, which is increased two-fold if a want of comprehension of the essential principles of coparcenary ownership and their application in village practice have resulted in the pronouncement of what is regarded as an unjust decree at court. The tenacity of the Azamgarh proprietor is never more conspicuously exhibited than in contesting an erroneous decision; and the importance of correct determinations in disputes regarding landed property in the district can hardly be overrated. The litigants have ample intelligence and knowledge to understand and criticise, and it is not beyond the truth to say that the average proprietor would rather undergo a substantial term of rigorous imprisonment on a false charge than every day, as he goes out to work, see his father's field in the hands of a stranger, or, worse still, a relative, owing to the mistaken order of a court.

Proprietary castes. Of the landholding castes in the district, far the most important is the Rajput. At the recent settlement no less than 491,034 acres or 34·73 per cent. of the entire district, including both the permanently settled and the transferred villages, were in the hands of this caste. In parganas Muhammadabad, Sagri and Mahul they do not hold the first place, but in every other pargana their position as landholders is a commanding one; and the proportion of the land in their hands ranges from 89·14 per cent. of the pargana in Belhabans to only 17·04 in Ghosi. Next on the list come Musalmans, who own 330,347 acres or 23·37 per cent. of the entire district. In pargana Mahul they are the most powerful caste, their possessions aggregating 36·85 per cent. of the pargana; while in Muhammadabad pargana the proportion is 34·17 per cent. In other parganas Musalmans usually take the third place behind Rajputs and Bhuinhars or Brahmans; but from Belhabans and Kauria they are almost absent, their possessions being less than one per cent. of the pargana. They are followed by Bhuinhars, who hold 205,151 acres or 14·51 per cent. of the district, ranging from 45·79 per cent. in Ghosi and 30·76 per cent. in Sagri to only ·56 per cent. in Atraulia. They are important as proprietors in Mau, Muhammadabad, Bela-Daulatabad and Deogaon. Brahmans who come fourth own 160,289 acres or 11·34 per cent. of the entire district, the proportion varying from 23·77 per cent. in Gopalpur to 2·49 per cent. in Mau. This area includes the estates of several large proprietors, the

largest and best known of which is the estate of the Raja of Jaunpur, of whom some mention will be made later on. Thus nearly 84 per cent. of the entire district is divided among Rajputs, Musalmans, Bhuinhars and Brahmans. A long interval separates the last from Kayasths in whose hands are 58,825 acres, forming 4·16 of the district. Their estates are largest in Gopalpur where they make up as much as 17 per cent. of the pargana; but though Kayasths hold some land in all the parganas, the proportion in their hands is very small in Mau, and neither in Belhabans nor in Chiriakot does it exceed 2 per cent. Banias closely follow Kayasths with 57,118 acres or 4·04 per cent. Like that caste too they are found in all tahsils and the proportion of the land they own ranges from 6·2 per cent. in Nizamabad to ·42 per cent. in Mau. Khattris are not a prominent landholding caste and the total area of the district which is in their hands does not exceed 1·55 per cent; the bulk of which is owned by a single proprietor. Europeans possess 18,802 acres or 1·33 per cent., for the most part in pargana Mahul; and 13,338 acres or ·94 per cent. belong to religious orders. But of other castes, the only two that hold areas large enough to be worthy of mention are Ahirs and Kurmis, who have 12,534 and 12,492 acres respectively; the former are scattered over most parganas of the district, but the vast majority of the latter are in Natthupur. These figures may be compared with those of the previous settlement to show how far changes have taken place in the composition of the proprietary body. Statistics, however, are only available for the temporarily settled estates. In these villages, which form the bulk of the district, Brahmans have since 1877 increased their holdings by 2·22 per cent. while Bhuinhars and Rajputs have lost to the extent of 9·88 and 3·47 per cent. respectively. The losses of the Bhuinhars have been largely due to the extravagance and mismanagement of some of the more important members of the clan, such as the Bhuinhars of Surahri in Nizamabad and those of Belwana in pargana Mahul; while the diminution of the area in the hands of Rajputs is due to land in the neighbourhood of the towns passing into the hands of large bankers. Still on the whole, considering the subdivision of property, the Rajputs have held their own remarkably well. The position of the Musalmans has remained practically unchanged, the losses among one subdivision

being compensated for by the gains of another. Sheikhs, Saiyids, Pathans and Iraqis have all lost while Mughals and Zamindaras have both gained a substantial amount. The trading castes, in which are included Banias and Khattris, own over 70 per cent. more land than they did in 1877, and the religious orders have added to their estates to the extent of 24 per cent. Kayasths have lost 20 per cent. which is not a matter for regret considering their status as landholders in the district ; and of the purely agricultural castes Ahirs have 42 per cent. more land now and Kurmis 8 per cent. less than they had in 1877.

Leading families.

As might be expected from what has already been said, there are few large single landed proprietors in Azamgarh. According to a list made by Mr. Reid at the settlement of 1877, there were only 18 proprietors who were paying more than Rs. 5,000 in revenue to the Government; though there was a large number whose estates may be called medium-sized. The majority of the smaller single proprietors are Musalmans ; a few are Bhuinhars, and there are one or two Europeans and some traders. But the bulk of the Bhuinhars, Brahmans and Musalmans and nearly all the Rajputs are to be found in proprietary communities. There is only one title-holder in the district, but his property is altogether incommensurate with his position as leading nobleman in Azamgarh.

The Raja of Azamgarh.

Raja Muhammad Salamat Khan of Azamgarh has a title of ancient date, having been first assumed about 1665 A.D. The members of the family go by the name of Khanzada and are descended from a Gautam Rajput who embraced the Musalman faith. One Chandra Sen of Mehnagar in pargana Nizamabad had two sons, Sagar Singh and Abhiman, of whom the latter became a Musalman under the name of Daulat and rose to a high position as a eunuch of the court in the personal service of the emperor Jahangir. He is said to have acquired a large amount of wealth and landed property which he bequeathed to his nephew, Harbans Singh. Harbans Singh had two sons, Gambhir Singh and Dharnidhar ; the former died childless, but the latter had three sons, among whom a division of the property was made. The eldest, Bikramajit, is said to have murdered his brother Rudra Singh and to have seized his share. The widow complained to the authorities, and eventually

Bikramajit was killed and the estate was given to the woman. The latter adopted Azam Khan, the son of Bikramajit by a Musalman wife, and it was Azam Khan who founded the town of Azamgarh in 1665. Both he and his brother, Azmat Khan, assumed the title of Raja, and largely increased the family estates. Azmat Khan lost his life in 1688 while resisting the imperial authorities on account of arrears of revenue. His property passed first to his eldest and then to the second son, Mahabat Khan, who was the ruler of a large tract of country; but he, like his father, got into trouble with the authorities touching his revenue, and died in confinement in 1731. His son, Iradat Khan, remained in possession till 1756, when he resigned in favour of his son, Jahan Khan. In 1761 Jahan Khan, whose succession had been disputed by his cousin, Azam Khan, was killed in a fight with the agent of the Nawab Wazir, and his *taluqa* was transferred to Fazl Ali, governor of Ghazipur, who held it for three years. For a time the estate remained without a head, but after the defeat of Shuja-ud-daula at Buxar, Azam Khan obtained possession, and continued to hold the estate till his death in 1771. The *taluqa* was then consigned to the care of a *chakladar*, and from 1772 to 1801 was administered by nine officers in succession. It was during this period that the widow of Jahan, Rani Nirahi, put forward one Nadir Khan, who was helping her to manage her property, as the son of her late husband and her own adopted child. She and Nadir, however, appear to have been unable to manage the property ; they were put under restraint by the *chakladar*, but escaped to British territory and took up their residence there. Nadir then proceeded to adopt a lawless mode of life, and committed raids into the *chakla* by way of harassing the officials ; but he was ultimately bribed to order about 1790 by the *chakladar*, Bhawani Pershad, who assigned the revenue of certain villages for his support. The native Government does not appear to have recognised Nadir's right to the title of Raja; but shortly after the cession a pension of Rs. 150 a month was granted to him by the British Government, in addition to the revenue of the assigned villages. The pension was subsequently raised to Rs. 300 a month; he died in 1826, when the pension ceased. His family, however, continued in possession of the assigned villages, and his

successor Mubarak Khan was permitted to call himself Raja. At the fifth settlement the villages, not being held on a valid imperial grant, were brought upon the district rent-roll and settled regularly with the proprietors ; but half the revenue was appropriated in the form of monthly pensions payable to certain members of Nadir's family. Mubarak Khan died in 1858, leaving his property to his son, Muhammad Salamat Khan. Though generally acknowledged, the validity of the claim to the title of Raja was not formally decided till 1866. In 1873 the family property was increased by the grant of 5,000 acres of forest land in Gorakhpur, and the Raja was appointed an honorary magistrate for the Azamgarh municipality in 1875.

The Raja of Jaunpur.

The largest single proprietor in the district is Raja Sri Kishan Datt of Jaunpur. The bulk of his estate lies in the district of Jaunpur, but 69 whole villages and ten *pattis*, assessed to a demand of Rs. 38,500, are situated in Azamgarh. The Raja belongs to a family of Dube Brahmans, who formerly resided at Amauli in the Kora pargana of the Fatehpur district. In the second half of the eighteenth century Sheo Lal Dube acquired a considerable fortune as a banker, and in that capacity obtained employment under Kalb Ali Beg the farmer of Jaunpur. In 1788, when the latter failed in his revenue payments, Mr. Jonathan Duncan, the resident at Benares, appointed Sheo Lal as his successor, and for a considerable period he acted as collector of the revenue in the four *sarkars* held by the Raja of Benares. He afterwards obtained the title of Raja for his services in putting down the rising of Saltanat Singh, and in November 1797 received a *sanad* from the Governor-General conferring on him the title of Raja and the *taluqa* of Badlapur. This was the nucleus of the large estate he subsequently acquired. With the portion of it in Jaunpur we are not here concerned, but the history of the Azamgarh portion may briefly be told. After the cession of Azamgarh by the Nawab Wazir in 1801, Jaigopal Pande, son-in-law of Sheo Lal Dube, and Ram Ghulam Pande, cousin of Jaigopal, were appointed tahsildars of parganas Nizamabad and Mahul, respectively, on the security of Sheo Lal ; and they held their appointments till 1808. In that year formal charges of peculation, corruption and oppression were made to the

Board of Revenue against them by various persons in Azamgarh, and they were removed from their offices. An investigation into the charges against them established the fact that they had kept back some revenue, and that they had purchased privately or at auction, in the names of real or fictitious persons, and had taken in mortgage and farm estates situated in their jurisdictions. Proceedings against them followed. Jaigopal and Ram Ghulam were compelled under a decree of court to pay up the revenue which they had withheld; but settlement was unavoidably made with the recorded purchasers and mortgagees for estates of which they were ostensibly in possession. The fraudulent sale by Ishri Bakhsh, however, of the large *taluqas* Gurela, Baramadpur and Shamsabad in Mahul was, under the sanction of the Government, disregarded; settlement was made with the village proprietors and Sheo Lal was referred to the civil court. The estates that had been purchased prior to 1808, augmented by further acquisitions between 1810 and 1813, continued to be recorded in the names of dependents of Jaigopal and Ram Ghulam. The cultivators were Rajput and Bhuinhar communities, who resisted all efforts to extract the revenue, whether made by the proprietors or by the Government officials. In 1814 Mr. Christian, the collector, proposed to confiscate the estates standing in the name of Baldatt Dube, a minor son of Sheo Lal Dube, and to hold an investigation into the title on which all the estates suspected of having been illegally acquired were held. These proposals were negatived, but certain estates were put up to auction for arrears of revenue. This measure, however, was rendered nugatory by a ruling of the civil court, and ultimately the estate remained almost intact; while some further addition to it was made in subsequent years by purchases at auction. For many years owing to the opposition of the ex-proprietors and bad management on the part of the Rajas, their hold on many of the villages in Azamgarh was very weak, and for some years a number of them was leased to Mr. Hunter of Nizamabad. The successors of Sheo Lal Dube appear to have followed each other in rapid sequence, as death carried them off one by one. The Court of Wards assumed control for the first time in 1859 and continued to hold it till 1874. Rajas

Harihar Datt and Shankar Datt, who succeeded in 1875, accumulated a mass of debt, and the estate was again managed by the Court of Wards from 1878 to 1889. In accordance with an agreement between the brothers, subsequently held valid by the civil courts, Harihar Datt relinquished his claim to the estate, and Raja Shankar Datt became sole owner in 1891. He died childless in 1897, when the Court of Wards once more assumed charge. The property was then registered in the name of his widow, Rani Gumani Kunwar, to whom he had given authority to adopt a successor. She eventually selected Sri Kishan Datt, the present holder of the title ; but the estate is still administered by the Court of Wards.

Babu Durga Prasad's estate.

The only other estate in the district of which the revenue exceeds Rs. 10,000 is that known as Babu Durga Prasad's estate. It is now held by Musammat Dhandai, the widow of Babu Durga Prasad. The latter was the grandson of Kanhaiya Lal, a Khattri, who was appointed treasurer of Gorakhpur in 1802 A. D., *chakla* Azamgarh being at that time and until 1820 included in Gorakhpur. Soon after 1802, Kanhaiya Lal's son and son-in-law were both appointed tahsildars in the district. In 1808 the latter who was tahsildar of parganas Atraulia, Kauria and Gopalpur was dismissed, and in 1814 Kanhaiya Lal was dismissed from his post of treasurer also. During the interval, however, they had managed to purchase a number of *mahals* in Azamgarh, and more were purchased after their dismissal. The estate is in a flourishing condition ; for although some of the Rajput and Bhuinhar communities continue to give trouble, the management is generally successful.

Other landholders.

The Pathan family, known as the Sidhari Babus, belongs to the same parent stock as the Raja of Azamgarh. Part of the estate, which in 1877 comprised 53 whole villages and parts of six others, scattered over tahsils Azamgarh, Sagri and Muhammadabad, was acquired before the cession and was known as the *taluqa* of Baz Bahadur. The family has, through mismanagement and extravagance, become deeply indebted. The estate of the elder branch has been taken under the management of the Court of Wards, and in due time the encumbrances will be cleared off.

But the case of the junior branch, which was considered at the same time, was regarded as hopeless ; the property is being gradually sold up and soon but few villages will be left. The estate of Mir Muhammad Taki of Sarai Mir is now held by women ; it was also encumbered, but it was taken under the Court of Wards in 1880 and the debts have been paid off. The Mittupur estate in pargana Mahul consists of 10 villages, and belongs to Raja Abu Jafar, who has a *taluqdari* estate of considerable extent in Fyzabad. The heirs of Beni Pershad, Bania of Azmatgarh, have considerably extended their possessions since 1877 ; besides their property in Azamgarh they own land in other districts and have a large business in Calcutta. The property of Mangal Pershad Bhuinhar, which at last settlement comprised five whole villages and shares in 50 others, has passed to his heirs Babus Mathura Pershad Narayan Singh and Kesho Pershad Narayan Singh, who have not only retained but extended the property, while Sripat Narayan Singh, after incurring considerable debts, has recently died leaving his property to his descendants. The estate of Jiu Lal Singh of Bharauli in Atraulia has been mostly sold, but one member of the family, Harbans Deo Narayan Singh, has not only retained his share, but has purchased some of that belonging to his relatives. The Saiyid family of Ambari in Mahul, represented at last settlement by Mir Jafar Ali, has lost some of its property ; but it still retains 13 villages in *tappa* Mahul.

European Proprietors.

Some notice is called for regarding the properties held by Europeans in Azamgarh. The largest of these is known as the Kajha estate in pargana Muhammadabad. The founder of the estate was Mr. John Sturmer, an Eurasian merchant, who came to Azamgarh soon after the cession. The nucleus of the estate was the village of Kajha. It was formerly owned by Singhel Rajputs, who were notorious for their turbulence. Owing to an accumulation of arrears their estate was sold at auction, bought in by the collector for want of bidders, and farmed. But in 1810 the farmer's authourity could only be maintained by the stationing of a detachment of sepoys on the estate; and under the orders of the Governor-General the old proprietors were debarred from recovering their proprietary right on account of their

misconduct. Eventually the estate was privately sold to Mr. J. Sturmer. Mr. Sturmer engaged vigorously in the cloth, sugar and indigo trades, bought up Mr. Fergusson's indigo factories in 1812, and increased his property by the purchase, mortgage and farm of other landed estates. In 1877 the entire property consisted of 24 whole villages and parts of 17 others; and it has remained intact to the present day. It is now owned by his heirs, the Misses Sturmer, who reside at Kajha, and is assessed to a demand of Rs. 8,445. Close to Kajha is the estate of Bagli Pinjra, the property of the late Mr. C. Hudson. It consists of nine villages, also formerly the property of Singhel Rajputs, and is at present held by transferees in satisfaction of debts due from Mrs. Hudson. It is likely to be soon redeemed. The Shamsabad estate in pargana Mahul is a Mutiny grant which was made to Mr. Dunne. It is a fine compact property of 15 villages and has passed to Mrs. Forbes and some other heirs of Mr. Dunne. The revenue demand on the property amounts to Rs. 7,915. The Khorason estate is a Mutiny grant made at the same time as the Shamsabad grant. It comprises nine villages in pargana Mahul, and is managed now by Mr. T. A. Martin, a son of the grantee, the Government demand amounting to Rs. 6,155. The estate of Mr. Venables comprised in 1877 the large village of Dubari in pargana Natthupur and shares in 32 other villages in Natthupur and Sagri. Dubari belonged originally to Chandel Rajputs, but was confiscated for rebellion in 1858 and conferred on Mr. Venables. The latter died the same year and his heirs, not many years after, went away to England, and the management of the property devolved almost entirely on the collector. In 1895 the estate was sold to Saiyid Ihtisham Ali of Lucknow, and has now ceased to exist as an European property.

Cultivating tenures.

Some mention has already been made of the *musakhsidars* or subproprietors, and of the *shankālpdars* or *birtdars*, who exist in a few estates and form a class intermediate between the great body of proprietors on the one hand and the great body of cultivating tenants, who have no proprietary interest in the soil, on the other. In the permanently settled villages in 1908 there were 376 acres of land held by fixed rate tenants. This class of tenant only exists

in the permanently settled portions of the province. Its rights were defined under Act X of 1859, the earliest rent statute, and its occupancy at fixed rates is based on the assumption that the rent has not varied since the permanent settlement. But with these exceptions the cultivating tenures differ in no respect from those found elsewhere in the province of Agra. At the recent settlement it was ascertained that of the total holdings area, 385,221 acres or 42·9 per cent. were held by occupancy and ex-proprietary tenants, 358,151 acres or 39·8 per cent. were cultivated by proprietors themselves, which 115,924 acres or 12·9 per cent. were in the hands of tenants-at-will, the remainder of the area being either grain-rented, 27,790 acres, or held rent-free, 9,906 acres. These figures may be compared with those of the previous settlement in 1877 in order to ascertain the changes that have taken place in the tenures under which the land is held in Azamgarh; and though complete statistics are only available for the temporarily settled villages, excluding those transferred from Gorakhpur, these form so large a portion of the district that they may be accepted as representative of the whole. Compared with the last settlement, the area held as *sir* or *khudkasht* in the temporarily settled villages is found to have increased by 8·43 per cent. The area of proprietary cultivation is largest in parganas Deogaon, Belhabans, Sagri, Qariat Mittu and Chiriakot, but it is important everywhere, though least in Mahul. Part of the increase it is true, is due to emended classification, but on the other hand this is probably balanced by decreases due to sale or other transfer. The area now in the hands of exproprietary and occupancy tenants is 5·93 per cent. higher than it was in 1877; while that held by non-accupancy tenants has decreased by over 12 per cent. The increase of the area held in occupancy right is a remarkable feature in a district where land is so valuable; and at first sight it appears surprising that the proprietors have not made efforts to restrict the growth of this right. But there are some good reasons for their forbearance. In the first-place the high caste tenant, the Brahman, Rajput and Bhuinhar, is a difficult person to deal with; he resists ejectment with remarkable tenacity and it is usually not worth the landholder's while to fight him. Low caste tenants on the other hand are usually

submissive and do nothing to compel their landlords to look with a jealous eye on their acquisition of occupancy right. In the second place, to restrain the growth of these privilages requires concerted and energetic action ; but the bulk of the land in Azamgarh belongs to coparcenary communities, and in these such action is most difficult to obtain. The actual number of separate cultivatory holdings-in-chief under all classes of tenure in the temporarily settled villages exceeds 1,100,000 and there are in addition some 450,000 holdings of the nature of subtenancies ; for land is much sublet in Azamgarh, over one-fourth of the *sir* land being cultivated by subtenants.

In considering the subject of cultivating castes in Azamgarh, it is necessary to bear in mind that a fundamental difference is made by the people themselves between high caste and low caste tenants. The great body of highcaste tenants are those who are supposed to employ farm servants to perform the more menial operations, while those of low caste do everything for themselves. The former comprise the three great Hindu superior castes—Brahmans, Rajputs and Bhuinhars, with the true Saiyids and Sheikhs and the Nau-muslim Pathans of Rajput lineage ; and include some other classes such as Kayasths and Bhats. In the second or low caste order of tenants are included all other cultivating castes, Ahirs, Chamars, Koeris, etc., among the Hindus and the Zamindaras among the Musalmans. The orders are usually spoken of as *sharif* and *razil* ; and it is the implication of social inferiority in the latter term rather than the advantage in rent which it carries that causes the Zamindaras and Mals who properly belong thereto to resist the classification. At the recent settlement it was found that nearly two-thirds or over 65 per cent. of the holdings area in the hands of tenants in the temporarily settled villages was held by tenants of low caste, while one-third was cultivated by tenants of high caste. The distinction is an important one as regards rent, as will presently be seen. Of the chief cultivating castes of the district, Ahirs hold far the largest acreage, amounting to 22·2 per cent. of the tenant's area in the temporarily settled villages. Next to them come Rajputs with 14·6 per cent.; and these are followed by Brahmans, 10·6 per cent. Chamars 8·8 per cent. and Bhuinhars and Zamindaras each of whom cultivated per cent. Over 4 per cent. is cultivated by Koeris and Lunias, and between 3 and 4

Cultivating castes.

per cent. by Kurmis and Bhars ; and the only other castes that hold large areas are Kewats, Kahars, Lohars and Pasis. In addition to the areas here given, the high castes, the Zamindaras and to a smaller extent one or two other of the low castes cultivate large areas as *sir* and *khudkasht.*

Rents. Most of the rented land in Azamgarh is held on cash rents fixed in the lump or by rate on the *bigha* : there were, however, 27,790 acres grain rented in the whole district at the recent settlement. Rent is paid in kind on the system known as *batai* or division of the crop chiefly on rice land in the southern parganas of the district where the crops are precarious. The custom is well adapted for land of the kind and, as a rule, neither landlord nor tenant desires to alter it. Here the landlord's share of the crop is generally half of the grain (*adhia*), together with certain cesses which come out of the tenant's half ; the latter are known as *serahi* and *pachua* or *neg*, and usually consist of one-twentieth of the tenant's share. Among cash rented tenures the simplest is also the most usual, the rent fixed or agreed on being payable without reference to the kind of crops sown, the quality of the crops and the amount of fallow. Tenures, however, are not uncommon in which these conditions affect the amount of rent payable in different years. The most widespread of these is the custom known as *shudkar* or *jinspher*. Under this system rates per *bigha* are fixed for the different kinds of crops and the amount payable in each year varies with the crops sown. The first instalments of rent are paid according to the previous year's demand, and the cultivation of the current year having been examined in the meantime, each tenant's account is drawn up and settled at the last instalment. The custom has reference of course principally to the cultivation of sugarcane. If a field lies fallow, or only an autumn crop is taken from it with a view to sugarcane cultivation in the following summer and winter, no rent or only a low rate is payable. But this is counterbalanced or more than counterbalanced by a heavy rate on the sugarcane and, in some estates, by a small extra charge on the spring crop which follows it in the third year. Again, in some rice tracts in which the crops are precarious but cash rents prevail, rents are adjusted every year according to the quality of the crops, the custom being known as *deksan*. A third custom in rice tracts is known as

uthi parti. Under this, the area of the tenant's holding is fixed, but he pays rent only for the fields which he plants with rice, nothing being charged for fallow.

Progress of rents.

At the settlement concluded in 1908 the general incidence on tenant's land in Azamgarh amounted to Rs. 5·20 per acre. Occupancy tenants holding 376,267 acres paid a rate of Rs. 5·25, while tenants-at-will with 115,924 acres paid Rs. 5·06 per acre, the discrepancy being largely due to the fact that occupancy tenants hold most of the best land. These rates are capable of comparison with those prevailing at the settlement of 1877 only in the temporarily settled villages; but before this is done, it is necessary to set forth the important differences that exist between the rates paid by high caste and those paid by low caste tenants. A considerable proportion of the former order of cultivators are descendants of expropriators, that is of those who held proprietary rights prior to the cession of the district or lost them subsequently through the action of the law or voluntary demission. As a rule high caste tenants of all sorts are independent in spirit, and are disposed to assume an attitude of hostility to the landlord and to oppose him in the enjoyment of his rights. They generally only acknowledge the landlord's right to a fixed rent in cash and grain, and strenuously resist enhancement. Low caste tenants on the other hand, besides being more amenable to the will of the landlord as regards rent, are accustomed to render him a number of petty dues and services besides rent; they are known as *parjas*, and in villages in which the land is held in severalty by the proprietors these low caste tenants or *parjas* are generally distributed among them. The differences between these classes of tenants is well borne out by the statistics. In the temporarily settled portions of the district high caste occupancy tenants pay a rate of Rs. 4·42 per acre as against one of Rs. 5·83 paid by low caste occupancy tenants, while as regards non-occupancy tenants the difference is between Rs. 5·08 and Rs. 5·63 per acre in favour of the high caste tenants. Now at the settlement of 1877, the all-round incidence on tenants' land was Rs. 4·62 per acre in the temporarily settled portion of the district as compared with Rs. 5·34 in 1908, the increase being one of 15½ per cent. High caste occupancy tenants in 1877 paid Rs. 4·11, high caste

non-occupancy tenants Rs. 4·20, low caste non-occupancy tenants Rs. 4·53 and low caste occupancy tenants Rs. 5·19 per acre. To ascertain, however, the real rise in rental values, the high caste tenancies, which are affected by special considerations, must be neglected ; and if the incidences on the areas held by low caste tenants at the two settlements be compared, the increase is found to be 18·20 per cent. This result has been obtained after all enhancements, whether informally or formally carried out, have been brought on the rent-roll, and it may be accepted as an accurate estimate of the extent to which rents have generally risen in Azamgarh during the period of settlement.

Condition of the people.

It is difficult to gauge accurately the condition of the people in Azamgarh. Where property has been so much subdivided, it is impossible that the bulk of the people can be well off, while the increase of population among the lower classes cannot but adversely effect their standard of comfort. The district, however, enjoys so equable a climate that the population has never been impoverished by the agricultural calamities which have from time to time desolated other districts; and the members of the proprietary body are if any thing less indebted than elsewhere. They seldom apply for *takavi* loans from the Government except in years of famine, and they live extremely frugally. The large extent to which emigration, however, is now taking place indicates that, with the decline of the weaving industry and the natural growth of population, the struggle for existence is severe. The district on the whole is not self supporting in the matter of food grains ; in good years there is little or no export, in bad there is a considerable import. The inhabitants thus live on the food grains they raise and pay their charges by selling sugar and oilseeds. Their income, however, is now largely supplemented from a fresh source. From 1891 to 1900, no less than Rs. 13,00,000 were annually remitted by emigrants from Azamgarh to their relatives at home. The sum is now 16 or 17 *lakhs* in a normal year ; and it would appear that, but for this addition to their earnings, it would be impossible for the people to support themselves by agriculture alone. It may thus be seen that emigration plays a far more important part in the internal economy of the district than would at first sight appear; and probably, as

population increases and it becomes more widely known that fortunes are to be made in other parts of India or beyond its shores, this stream of emigrants will increase. This will not only relieve the pressure on the soil, but the remittances from those who go away will increase the incomes, as they increase them now, of those who stay at home.

CHAPTER IV.

REVENUE AND ADMINISTRATION.

District staff.

The district is in the charge of a magistrate and collector, who is subject to the control of the commissioner of the Gorakhpur division. The sanctioned magisterial and revenue staff consists of one joint magistrate, who is a justice of the peace, four deputy or assistant magistrates and collectors with first class powers, and one with powers of the third class. There are also six tahsildars who exercise criminal and revenue powers, the former usually of the third and the latter of the second class. There is a bench of honorary magistrates at Azamgarh, consisting of four members. Two of the members, one being Raja Muhammad Salamat Shah, hold office for life and two for fixed periods; each of them has third class magisterial powers, but the bench is invested with the ordinary powers of a magistrate of the second class and its jurisdiction extends to the whole of the Azamgarh tahsil. Within the notified areas of Mau and Mubarakpur, there are also four honorary magistrates invested with third-class magisterial powers, two in each place. For purposes of civil jurisdiction the district comprises the judgeship of Azamgarh, and subordinate to the judge are a subordinate judge and two munsifs, the subordinate judge being also munsif of tahsil Deogaon. One munsif holds his court at Azamgarh, his jurisdiction extending to tahsils Azamgarh and Mahul and to parganas Gopalpur of tahsil Sagri and Chiriakot and Qariat Mittu of tahsil Muhammadabad. The other munsifi is that of Muhammadabad and comprises parganas Muhammadabad and Mau Nathbhanjan of tahsil Muhammadabad, tahsil Ghosi, and pargana Sagri of tahsil Sagri. There is also one honorary munsif, whose jurisdiction extends to pargana Ghosi. The remaining official staff includes the superintendent of police, the civil surgeon and his assistants, the assistant opium agent, the district engineer, and the postmaster.

Subdivisions.

As at present constituted Azamgarh is divided into six tahsils and fifteen parganas. The latter are of some importance in the

fiscal administration, though they have not in the past always been included in their original shape within the boundaries of the tahsils in which they are now found. The Azamgarh tahsil is conterminous with the pargana of Nizamabad. The Muhammadabad tahsil comprises four parganas, namely Muhammadabad, Mau Nathbhanjan, Chiriakot and Qariat Mittu ; while there are three, Deogaon, Belhabans and Bela-Daulatabad in tahsil Deogaon. Tahsil Ahraula or Mahul also has three parganas, Mahul, Atraulia and Kauria ; but tahsils Sagri and Ghosi have only two each, namely Sagri and Gopalpur, and Ghosi and Natthupur. Besides these parganas, a subdivision of some parganas into *tappas* and *tarafs* is locally recognised; but as it is of no importance except for administrative and revenue convenience, details are left for the special pargana articles.

Formation of the district.

Of the parganas now existing only two, Mahul and Atraulia, are not found in the *Ain-i-Akbari*. The present areas necessarily differ from those of the parganas of the same name that existed in 1596 A. D. The existence of Mahul as a separate fiscal subdivision dates from the middle of the eighteenth century. At that time a large number of *tappas* and estates—chiefly in parganas Nigun, Ungli and Surhurpur—had come into the hands of the Saiyid family of Mahul under the circumstances already sketched in Chapter III. These estates were at first collectively known as *taluqa* Mahul, and it is only since the cession that they have been designated a *pargana*. The modern pargana of Atraulia owes its origin to the efforts made by the Palwar families to establish *taluqas*. One of these, Balwant Singh, succeeded in acquiring a sufficiently large tract to be made into a pargana. The modern pargana of Atraulia represents Balwant Singh's *taluqa* and is also called in old official records Tilahani. The reason for this is that the *taluqa* was mainly carved out of the *Ain-i-Akbari* pargana of Tilahani. One pargana of the *Ain-i-Akbari*, namely Chakesar, has been merged in the modern pargana of Ghosi. In the early English settlements a third subdivision of Ghosi and Chakesar is found under the name of *taluqa* Surajpur, and it still exists as a collection of estates. The existing fifteen parganas of the district appear to cover the same ground as the parganas of the same name in the *Ain-i-Akbari*

as well as Tilahani and Chakesar. Mahul, however, as we have seen, includes portions of Surhurpur, Ungli and Nigun ; and Deogaon, owing to alterations made at the fifth settlement, differs considerably from that pargana as it stood both in 1596 and at the cession in 1801. Lastly the pargana of Bela-Daulatabad was carved out of Nizamabad only as late as 1874.

Under the first article of the treaty concluded between Nawab Saadat Ali Khan and the Governor-General on November 10th 1801, *chakla* Azamgarh (this included the bulk of the present district), *taluqa* Mahul, and pargana Mau Nathbhanjan were Ceded to the East India Company, and were included in the new British district of Gorakhpur. At the beginning of 1820 parganas Deogaon, Nizamabad, Mahul, Kauria, Tilahani, Atraulia and Gopalpur were transferred from the Gorakhpur collectorate to Jaunpur ; and parganas Sagri, Ghosi, Chakesar, Surajpur, Belhabans, Qariat Mittu, Chiriakot, Muhammadabad, Mau Nathbhanjan and Natthupur were transferred to Ghazipur. The Jaunpur parganas constituted the four tahsils of Deogaon, Nizamabad, Mahul and Koelsa; the Ghazipur parganas those of Sagri, Ghosi, Chiriakot and Muhammadabad. Until Azamgarh was formed into a separate collectorate on September 18th, 1832, the portion of the district included in Ghazipur remained directly subordinate to the collector of that district. In the portion which belonged to the district of Jaunpur, however, an assistant collector with the title of deputy collector was in 1823 deputed to hold charge of parganas Nizamabad and Koelsa. Deogaon and Mahul remained at first directly under the collector of Jaunpur; but Mahul was subsequently also added to the charge of the Azamgarh deputy collector. Mr. Thomason, who afterwards became Lieutenant-Governor, was the first collector nominated in 1832. The eight tahsils over which the parganas had been distributed in 1820 remained practically unchanged until 1861. The only alteration made was the transfer of pargana Mau Nathbhanjan from tahsil Chiriakot to tahsil Muhammadabad. But in 1861, tahsils Koelsa, Ghosi and Chiriakot were abolished, their component parganas being divided amongst the remaining five tahsils. It has been already noted that pargana Bela-Daulatabad, was formed in 1874 out of Nizamabad but no other change took place till

1904. In that year 64 square miles of country comprised in 102 villages were transferred to Azamgarh from Gorakhpur in rectification of boundaries. A new tahsil was created at Ghosi out of parganas Ghosi and Natthupur of tahsil Sagri with the addition of two *tappas* from pargana Muhammadabad. The villages transferred from Gorakhpur were allotted to the reduced Sagri tahsil and thus a sixth tahsil was added to the previously existing five.

Permanently settled villages.

Before we proceed to describe the fiscal history of Azamgarh it will be convenient to notice the permanently settled villages which it contains. Besides the fifteen parganas which now form part of it, the district contained at its creation two other parganas, Bhadaon and Sikandarpur, which were usually known as "the permanently settled parganas of Azamgarh." These were removed from Azamgarh on November 1st, 1879, and added to the old Ballia subdivision of the Ghazipur district to constitute the present Ballia district. But besides these, Azamgarh has contained since the fifth settlement, which was carried out between 1833 and 1837, a number of other permanently assessed villages. These did not originally belong to the two parganas now included in Ballia but were incorporated with Azamgarh at the time of that settlement, when pargana boundaries within the district and between it and the districts of Jaunpur and Ghazipur were rectified. These villages are now 177 in number. No less than 102 belong to pargana Natthupur, having been transferred to it from pargana Sikandarpur. Of the remainder 32 are in Deogaon, 26 in Muhammadabad, 15 in Mahul and one each in Ghosi and Mau Nathbhanjan.* The fiscal history of these villages is the same as that of the other permanently settled tracts of these provinces, and need not be detailed here. The revenue on them was assessed when they belonged to the Benares province under the superintendence of Mr. Jonathan Duncan in 1789-90 and was declared permanent with effect from March 27th, 1795. The revenue fixed by Mr. Duncan has varied to some extent since the permanent settlement owing to alluvion or diluvian, resumption and similar causes but to all intents and purposes it has remained

* Azamgarh gave 133 villages, 118 from Mahul and 15 from Deogaon, to Jaunpur in exchange ; while five others were transferred from Ghosi to the Ghazipur district.

unchanged. In 1908 the demand on these villages stood at Rs. 54,782.

Fiscal history.

By an order, dated December 12th, 1801, Mr. John Routledge, collector of Benares, was directed to take charge of the parganas forming the new district of Gorakhpur from the amils of the Oudh Government. Among these, *chakla* Azamgarh, Mau Nathbhanjan and Mahul were included. Mr. Routledge took charge of Azamgarh and Mau Nathbhanjan at the end of December 1801, and of Mahul at the end of January 1802. The demand for the year 1801-02 was estimated from the papers of the amils and qanungos and amounted to Rs. 6,93,767; but of this sum apparently the collector was unable to realise more than Rs. 5,89,264. It appears from the surviving correspondence of the period that the tract had been wretchedly misgoverned, and that both the agricultural and trading interests were much depressed. Before describing each of the settlements in detail, it is necessary to sketch in outline the general system pursued in their formation. This was the same as that pursued in all the ceded provinces. It was laid down that a settlement should be concluded for three years, 1802-03 to 1804-05; and at the conclusion of that period that new engagements should be taken for another period of three years, 1805-06 to 1808-09. This was to be followed by a third settlement for four years and on its expiry the estates that had come sufficiently under cultivation were to be settled in perpetuity. Settlement was to be made with the *zamindars* in possession of estates, if they offered a fair and equitable *jama* and filed security to the amount of one-fourth of their annual payments. The revenue was to be 90 per cent. of the estimated assets of each estate after deduction of the expenses of management, ten per cent. of the assets being allowed to the *zamindars* as profit. In case the *zamindars* declined to engage, it was laid down that they should receive an allowance according to the custom of the former government, and that settlement should be made for three years with headmen of villages or other respectable persons. The revenue was made payable in eight instalments; and to assist in gathering information for its assessment, and afterwards to collect it, tahsildars were appointed, who were remunerated for their labour and for all expenses with an allowance of ten per cent. on their collections.

First triennial settlement.

During the summer and autumn of 1802 Mr. Routledge was engaged in carrying out the settlement of his districts. That for Azamgarh and Mahul was concluded at Dohri-ghat, and it was reported for sanction along with the settlement of the rest of the collectorate of Gorakhpur on October 28th, 1802. According to Mr. Routledge's own account he took "as a ground for forming the settlement the ascertained assets of the preceding year, the produce expected from the extended cultivation, and the expected annual improvement therein calculated by the *zamindars* and *mustajirs* according to their own resources and the capabilities of the lands." The assessment was a progressive one and was sanctioned on December 16th, 1802; but it met with misfortune almost from the outset. The rainfall of 1803 was deficient, the *kharif* crops were poor, and in February 1804 there was a heavy hail-storm. Remissions were accordingly granted in the demand of 1803-04, and subsequently thirteen *mahals*, which had fallen into arrears, were sold by auction in April 1805.

Second triennial settlement.

Mr. Routledge was succeeded in 1803 by Mr. Ross, who carried out the second triennial settlement. Mr. Ross gave it as his opinion that the demand of the Azamgarh portion of the district was too high and was unequally allotted. The standing orders issued by the Government were that in parganas in which a progressive demand had been fixed for the first settlement, the demand of the last year should be taken as the reveuue of the new settlement. But Mr. Ross applied for and obtained permission to abate the existing demand wherever it appeared to press too heavily, and to raise it where it seemed to be unfairly light. In April 1805 he directed the tahsildars to repair to every *mahal* within their jurisdictions, to examine the *patwari's* accounts in conjunction with the qanungos and to inspect the lands. The returns obtained from the tahsildars he proposed to check by means of established rent-rates for each pargana as furnished by the qanungos, by the averages of the revenue that had been realised during the last ten years of the Nawab Wazir's rule, and by the return of cultivated land in each estate made in 1801-02 by the *patwaris*. The settlement was satisfactorily concluded and was reported for sanction on February 15th, 1806. The result was a considerable abatement on the demand of the preceding

year; but the necessity for this was acknowledged by the Government and sanction was accorded to the assessments on May 15th, 1806.

The third settlement.

Preparations for the third settlement began in the summer of 1807 by the appointment of a Board of Commissioners for the Ceded and Conquered Provinces. On this occasion the Government had in view the formation of a more accurate assessment and hoped to fix it in perpetuity. It was laid down that the average annual demand of the preceding settlement should be taken as a basis and that three-fourths of the produce of the extended cultivation of its most favourable year should be added to it. As some estates might show a decrease in cultivation, the assets of all estates were to be ascertained. With this object *dauls* or estimates of the produce were to be furnished by the tahsildars, and these were to be checked by the information which the collector was supposed to possess or might acquire by local and personal enquiry. From the assets five per cent. was to be deducted for the expenses of collection and management and ten per cent. for the subsistence of the proprietors: the balance became revenue payable to the Government. In no case, however, was the demand of the last year of the second settlement to be abated by the collector without full justification, and security amounting to one-fourth of the annual revenues was to be furnished by those with whom settlement was made. The term of the settlement was fixed at four years, with the stipulation that if the proprietors agreed, if the court of directors gave their sanction, and if no special reason intervened, the demand of the last year should be fixed in perpetuity. This settlement was carried out by Mr. Balfour, and the papers were not all submitted to the Board till 1810. At the end of 1808, the old establishment of tahsildars was abolished and new men on fixed salaries were appointed. These new men could not be forced to pay up balances, which they could not realise; and partly for this reason and partly on account of the recusancy of the people themselves, the newly assessed demand could only partially be collected in 1808-09. Its collection was never fairly got in hand throughout the whole period of settlement. The security system moreover could not be carried out; many estates were from time to time put up to auction and sold, frequently for small sums; and others were farmed or held in direct management.

The fourth settlement.

Regulation X of 1807 made a promise that the demand would be fixed in perpetuity after the expiry of the third settlement. But the court of directors refused to confirm the promise, rightly judging the fixation of a permanent demand inexpedient in the existing state of the country, and Regulation IX of 1812 prescribed a revision of the existing revenue. The revenue revised under the latter Regulation was to remain fixed for ever, but permanancy of demand was only to be extended to such estates as "might be in a sufficiently improved state of cultivation to warrant the measure, and on such terms as Government should deem fair and equitable." For those estates which did not come up to these conditions a temporary settlement for three or five years was determined on, and the term was ultimately fixed at five years for the whole province, that is from 1812-13 to 1816-17 A. D. It was subsequently extended for a further period of five years or till 1821 by Regulation XVI of 1816. The fourth settlement of the district was begun by Messrs. Grant and Forde and concluded by Messrs. Christian and Forde. The proceedings of the first two officers were very dilatory. In January 1813 the Board issued a new form of *dául*, which required fresh references to the tahsildars, so that very small progress was made in 1812-13. The revenue of the district fell heavily into arrears, and the collector with the sanction of the Board proceeded to sell estates. He was, however, soon met with the objection that, not being under engagement after 1811-12, the landlords were not liable for any specific amount of revenue for 1812-13 and that their estates could not be sold. Precepts were issued from the civil court staying sales and forbidding auction-purchasers being put in possession. Mr. Christian assumed charge of the district in March 1814, and he applied himself with energy to the completion of the settlement and the collection of the revenue. He obtained permission from the Board not only to assess estates still under settlement, but to revise demands which had been erroneously fixed too low. Pending a final adjustment of the demand, temporary engagements were taken from the landholders which prevented the interference of the civil court. By February 1815 very little remained to be done, Mr. Christian left the district and operations were brought to a conclusion by Mr. Forde. There is

nothing in particular to record regarding this settlement. The people seem to have soon settled down to the payment of the revenue fixed ; there were no heavy arrears ; and sales, though they did not cease, were less frequent than in the preceding period.

Settlement proceedings under Regulation VII of 1822.

The period of the fourth settlement was terminable in 1822, and preparations for the fifth settlement began in that year. The principles on which the settlement was to be conducted were laid down by Regulation VII of 1822. The settlement was to be one of a very different character from those that had preceded it. Orders were issued that not only the assessment of the revenue should be examined and revised, but that a large mass of information touching the system of agriculture and the rights of the people should be collected. At the end of 1821 the board of commissioners directed the collectors of Ghazipur and Jaunpur to begin operations experimentally in two or three villages in each tahsil. It was evident from the beginning that the progress of settlement would be very slow ; and after the promulgation of the Regulation it became necessary to arrange for the revenue pending the completion of the settlement. In the other parts of the Ceded and Conquered Provinces the Government extended the period of the fourth settlement for five years ; but under the conviction that the early settlements of Gorakhpur and Azamgarh had been very defective and that a large increase of revenue might be looked for these, it provided that a general agreement should be taken from the landholders to pay the existing demand till a new settlement had been formed. Mr. J. T. Reade began regular operations in Nizamabad in 1823, and settled 477 villages. Mr. Cumming settled forty-six villages, Mr. E. A. Reade one hundred and sixteen, and Mr. Thornton one hundred and seventy-one. A proclamation was issued in 1823 declaring Mahul under settlement operations but none seem to have been carried out there. In 1825 Mr. Chippindale commenced work in Deogaon, but made little progress. In the Ghazipur portion of the district, Mr. Barlow settled but 99 *mahals* out of 1,371, and his successor, Mr. Bayley assessed 14 more ; but it was not till 1832-33 that Mr. Montgomery completed the work which those officers had began in Sagri. Meanwhile in 1830 the Government called upon the collectors of Jaunpur and Ghazipur to report the progress of operations; but they were

obliged to admit that they could furnish no information—an admission which provoked a sharp rebuke from Sir Charles Metcalfe. The whole subject of settlement, however, was revived with the reference and Mr. Thomason was appointed collector with a view to the completion of the settlement. Before he arrived not only had a new Azamgarh district been formed, but Regulation IX of 1833 had been passed.

The fifth settlement.

Mr. Thomason joined the district in 1834 and the settlement was completed in 1837. It was conducted under the famous Regulation IX of 1833. The features which distinguished this settlement as well as the later operations under Regulation VII of 1822, were the demarcation of village boundaries and the survey of each village ; the fixation of the revenue for a period of twenty years, a period which was afterwards increased to thirty; and the formation of a record of rights and tenures in each village. In the settlements which were made in other districts under Regulation VII of 1822, the assessments were mostly made upon regularly prepared rent-rolls or estimates of the actual assests. In the operations under Regulation IX of 1833 the cultivated area of Azamgarh seems generally to have been classified into rice land and *harjins* land. Average rates were assumed for these classes, and an assumed rental was obtained by multiplying the areas by these assumed rates. The demand was fixed at a proportion of the actual or supposed assets, and varied between 50 and 66 per cent. The sum assessed in the temporarily settled estates was 33½ per cent. more than the highest *jama* of the fourth settlement. But upwards of one-fourth of the increase was due to the assessment of revenue upon villages which had previously been revenue free and *taufir*, and the enhancement upon the old revenue-paying estates amounted to only 23½ per cent. That it was a fair and equitable assessment, there is no doubt. Owing to the destruction of records in the Mutiny it is impossible to discover what coercive processes were employed for the recovery of the demand ; but it is believed that not more than a single estate or part of an estate was exposed for sale for arrears of revenue, and that of the very few estates which were held under direct management or farmed, none were alienated from the proprietors for more than three years ; and that in every such case, not the revenue, but internal dissensions were the cause

of the arrears. From 1837 to 1874, when a new settlement was carried out, 230,380 acres of land were sold according to the returns in the temporarily settled portions of the district. Half of the sales occurred in the period after the Mutiny. But the fact that land had increased in value is shown by the large rise in the price paid for it. Between 1837 and 1847 the price was Rs. 13-9-0 per acre for land sold at private sales : from 1859 to 1874 it was Rs. 30-6-0.

The sixth settlement.

The sixth settlement began in October 1866 with the survey of Deogaon, and the records were finally completed and deposited in March 1877. Mr. J. R. Reid joined the district in August 1868 and remained in charge of the operations from that date till the end. The whole of the inspection and assessment was done by him with the exception of pargana Mahul : this was assessed by Mr. H. M. Rogers. The revenue of the last pargana was announced in May 1875. The system of settlement pursued differed in general outline in no respect from that followed in other districts but it had some peculiarities of its own. It was early discovered that natural soils played but a small part in the agricultural economy of the district, and that they did not fit in with the classification of soils recognized and made use of by the people themselves. Any attempt to record them was accordingly abandoned. The various parganas were divided into circles according to the main topographical divisions of the district. Within these circles the cultivated land of each village was divided first into rice and *rabi* or *harjins* land. The distinction is unmistakeable on the ground and has already been explained in Chapter I. Each of these two kinds of land was then subdivided into classes, the rice generally into four and the *rabi* into six. The rice land was graded according to the quality of its natural soil and the facility of access to and the control of water-supply, *behnaurs* or seed nurseries being treated as paying no rent. The *rabi* land was divided into zones according to its distance from the inhabited sites, these zones being modified where necessary according to the natural quality of the soil. In neither case were all the classes or even the greater number of them ordinarily used in the same village. For the rice land four grades were constituted for the pargana or circle, and the

rice land of each village was put into one or more suitable grades. Only so many of the six grades of *rabi* land were utilized as were necessary to give the *rabi* land of the village its proper place compared with that of other villages in the circle, consideration being given to the natural quality of the soil, the size of the inhabited sites and the facilities for irrigation. For example, in a good village, the central zone of the *rabi* land would be classed as first and the outlying but still protected zone would be called third. In a good but not absolutely first class village these zones would be called second and fourth, and, in a village with a small site or defective soil or irrigation, they might be third and fifth. Outlying patches of *rabi* land would be fourth, fifth or sixth according to their apparent fertility without reference to the classification of the main block. But these particular formulæ were not rigidly adhered to, and the inspecting officer used whatever combination of classes in his opinion best expressed the comparative merits of each village. No attempt was made to demarcate a ring of *goind* round the main sites, nor, owing to the rarity of single large inhabited sites, is such a distinction required. In Ghosi, where there is much high cultivation, the first class was sometimes considered as *goind*. No distinction again was made within the circles between the stiffer and lighter soiled villages, but where the texture of the soil materially affected its fertility, this fact was allowed for in the classification. It was not found necessary to subdivide any of these classes into wet and dry. The rice land was already classed with reference to its water supply, and practically the whole of the *rabi* area is ordinarily irrigated. *Rabi* land totally devoid of means of irrigation was classed as sixth. Standard rates for application to assumption areas and for utilization as a test of average tenants' rentals were next sought for ; the existing rent-rate of rented fields was recorded in the survey *khasra* or field-book and was before the settlement officer at the time that he went round each village to inspect it. These rent-rates were tested and corrected by what he saw and heard, and " ultimately he was able to pick out from among the varying rent-rates rates which, personal and caste considerations being set aside, were commonest and seemed fairest in each

of the subdivisions of the cultivated land which he had been led to make."

Character and working of the settlement.

The valuation of the whole cultivated area in the temporarily settled portion of the district, which was of course alone under settlement, worked out at Rs. 4-12-3 per acre. On the other hand the incidence of the recorded rents was Rs. 4-9-10 for all tenants and as much as Rs. 4-14-3 for low caste tenants. The worst and most precarious land was not held on cash rents, and the valuation was higher in proportion to the rents than these figures would indicate. The valuation of the low caste tenant area too was materially higher than the recorded rent. As, however, there was undoubtedly some concealment his rates appear to have been fair current rates which were actually being paid at the time for land let to *bonâ fide* tenants. The demand fixed by Mr. Reid exceeded the expiring revenue of the fifth settlement by 33 per cent, and was a full one. Allowance was, it is true, made for the lower rents paid by high-caste tenants, but no deductions were given on account of proprietary cultivation and very few for improvements, As a rule a full half-assets demand was taken, except where land was extremely precarious or where the number of proprietors was unusually great. The assessments, however, were framed with the greatest care and judgement, and the demand was very accurately graduated to the capacity of the various villages. In no case was any interference with the assessments called for within the period of settlement. The revenue was throughout collected with as little difficulty as could be expected with so large a body of payers and so complicated and minute a system of account as prevails in the district. The lesser coercive processes have of course been numerous, but from them no inference can be drawn. Of severer methods of coercion there have been in 30 years 1,189 attachments and 40 transfers of shares or *pattis* ; but nearly one-half of the attachments occurred between 1897 and 1900 when the suspended revenue of 1896-97 was in train of liquidation. The settlement of a *mahal* has never been annulled, nor has there been any case of sale. As regards the transfers of revenue paying land, the returns show that between the years 1875 and 1899 revenue paying land sold at 16 years' purchase, when sold under order of

court, and at 29 years' purchase of the revenue when sold privately. During the currency of the fifth settlement the figures appear to have been 14 and 21 years' purchase respectively, so that the value of land has appreciated some 25 per cent.

Revision of 1902-05.

Operations with a view to resettlement began with the survey of tahsil Deogaon and a part of Azamgarh in 1898-99. Mr. C. E. Crawford joined the district as settlement officer in November 1900, and Mr. J. C. Smith as assistant settlement officer in November 1902. The actual work of assessment was done between 1902 and 1905; but the preparation of records and the settlement of numerous disputes regarding them and other matters were not finally disposed of till October 1908. From March 1905 until to that date Mr. Crawford held charge of the district as collector in addition to his settlement duties. The classification followed, both as regards soils and circles, that of Mr. Reid. The only alteration in Mr. Reid's system consisted in the introduction of separate circles for suburban and alluvial villages, and mixed circles for villages containing both *bangar* and *kachhar* land. For the selection of rates the rents of high-caste tenants were altogether discarded as also were those of low-caste non-occupancy tenants. The former were discarded because they are privileged and the latter because they are not the rents of holdings capable by themselves of supporting permanent and responsible tenants. It was considered that rates which would be suitable for determining the rents of low-caste occupancy tenants would also be suitable for the valuation of the assumption area; and it accordingly became necessary to first determine the proportionate values of the various soils in each circle and to analyse the low-caste occupancy rental. As regards the proportionate value of the various soils the settlement officer was guided by the quoted soil rates, the rates fixed at last settlement and his own opinion based on the appearance of the land at the time of inspection. Tentative rates were then framed and tested by comparison with the recorded rentals of the area held by low-caste occupancy tenants. From these tentative rates the most common were selected as likely to be useful as standard rates. The low-caste occupancy rental of the pargana was then analysed into the rental of holdings of which the rents had not changed since the previous settlement, of

holdings of which the rents had been enhanced during the currency of settlement, of holdings in which occupancy rights had been recently acquired, and of other holdings. By other holdings were meant holdings in which occupancy rights has been acquired partly at the previous settlement and partly at a subsequent date. The selected rates were then applied to each of these classes and modified according as the results of the valuation suggested. The object was to pitch the valuation at the level of the rents of new occupancy holdings and of those holding the rents of which had been enhanced since settlement. Any special circumstances which might render deviation from this rule desirable was of course taken into consideration.

The next step in assessment was to determine the area that might properly be assessed. In the case of cash rented land where the rents were adequate or excessive, the whole area was assessed, any allowance that was necessary being made in the form of a deduction from the rental. It was only in cases where the rents were rejected on the ground of inadequacy that an allowance in the area assessed was required. In the case of assumption areas, where the cultivated area of the year of survey exceeded the average of the last ten normal years, the survey area was usually accepted being attributable to the correct measurement of new cultivation. Where, on the other hand, the average exceeded the survey area there was a question whether the survey area or the average or some intermediate area should be accepted as the basis of assessment. The decision depended on the condition of the village at the time of inspection. In the *kachhar* tract the average exceeded the survey area, but the latter was accepted because the culturable area was very poor and unlikely to come again under cultivation in the immediate future. In tahsil Muhammadabad the survey area was found at inspection to be clearly under the mark, and either the average area or some intermediate figure was taken as the basis of assessment.

The recorded rents were then compared separately for high and low-caste tenants, occupancy and non-occupancy, with the valuation at circle rates or at those rates modified to suit the special circumstances of each village. The privilege actual-

ly enjoyed by high-caste occupancy tenants was fixed, after consideration of the recorded rents, at about 16 per cent. in all parganas except Atraulia and Kauria. In these owing to the strong Brahman element and the fact that most of the Rajput tenants were ex-proprietors, 25 per cent. was found necessary. Where the low-caste occupancy rental was approximately equal to or exceeded the valuation by a moderate amount, the rental was accepted: where it was below, the valuation was substituted unless the enhancement of revenue was already as much as it was necessary to take, or unless the inadequacy was made up for by excess in the non-occupancy rental. The high-caste occupancy rental was similarly treated after comparison with the valuation reduced by the admitted privilege. Where rents, both occupancy and non-occupancy, were much above the valuation, deductions were made for instability. The grain-rented area was for the most part, like proprietary cultivation and the rent-free area, valued at the circle rates or modified circle rates. Finally a full deduction of 25 per cent. was given on all proprietary cultivation except sublet *sir*; and a substantial allowance was made for improvements.

Financial results.

The valuation of the tenants' cash rented area exceeded the recorded rental by Rs 85,907 or less than 4 per cent. and the area assessed was 99·64 per cent. of the holdings area in the case of cash-rented tenants and 94·50 per cent. in the case of assumption areas. After all modifications had been made the net accepted assets of the temporarily settled villages amounted to Rs. 40,11,239. On this the revenue originally proposed was Rs. 18,86,902-8-0. Reductions totalling Rs 9,944-4-0 were subsequently made by the Board of Revenue leaving the finally sanctioned demand at Rs. 18,76,958-4-0. This sum represented 46·79 per cent. of the assets and gave an incidence of Rs. 2·36 per acre on the cultivated area. The incidence of the expiring demand on the cultivated area of the previous settlement was Rs. 2·31. But of the whole sum Rs. 9,476 was the nominal assessment of the revenue-free area, so that the net realizable demand was Rs. 18,67,482-4-0. This represented an increase of Rs. 1,87,491 or 11·16 per cent. on Mr. Reid's demand as it stood in 1902-05. In a number of *mahals* where the enhancement was large, the full demand will be reached by

progressive steps and will not be realizable till ten years have elapsed from the declaration of the assessments. So far as can be judged from the experience of the last few years, the enhanced demand has been collected without difficulty and the proprietors have recognized the reasonableness of the enhancement. From what has been previously said regarding the number of proprietors in the district, it can be easily imagined that the distribution of the revenue over the *pattis* and shares was a most laborious work.

The revenue demand as it stood in 1908, including that of both temporarily and permanently settled estates, will be seen in the appendix.* But in addition to this rates are levied. The amount is set forth in the same table. In the temporarily settled portion of the district the rates are levied under United Provinces Act II of 1906 and are the same as those in force throughout the temporarily settled portions of the province of Agra. They are calculated on the gross demand and now include only the ten per cent. local rate. This dates from 1871 when the various old cesses imposed for the upkeep of schools, roads, post-offices and the like were consolidated and received the sanction of law. In the permanently settled *mahals*, however, different rates are levied. The acreage rate was first imposed in 1871 under Act XVIII of that year, which was afterwards replaced by Act III of 1878, and is now assessed under the Local and Rural Police Rates Act (United Provinces Act II of 1906) at a rate of two annas per acre of cultivation on all holdings, the assessment being subject to revision every ten years. The demand on account of this rate in 1906-07 was Rs. 4,573. The road cess, which was first introduced in 1841, is levied at a rate of one per cent. on the revenue and in 1906-07 produced a sum of Rs. 535. The receipts from surrendered *jagirs* are properly speaking land revenue assessed on the land formerly set apart for the maintenance of the rural police, and in 1906-07 they amounted to Rs. 1,511, bringing the grand total of rates and receipts from the permanently settled *mahals* to Rs. 6,619. The *patwari* rate which was first imposed in 1873 was finally withdrawn in 1906. Rates.

* Appendix table X.

Police.

In the earliest days of British rule no proper police force existed at all. In the regulation which prescribed the arrangements for the first settlement it was laid down that the *zamindars* who paid their revenue direct into the collector's treasury (that is, whose estates were *huzur tahsil*), should be responsible for maintaining an efficient police on their estates. The same enactment provided that the tahsildars should be bound to maintain an efficient force of police within their respective jurisdictions from a ten per cent. allowance on their collections. The police arrangements of the cities and large markets, however, the Government took upon itself. This arrangement remained in force till 1807, when the *dahyak* tahsildars, as they were called, because of the ten per cent. allowance, were abolished. Regulation XIV of that year provided that the charge of the police of the country should be vested, subject to the control of the magistrates, in special officers to be appointed by the Government and in subordination to them in the landholders and farmers of land. Districts were then first divided into compact police jurisdictions, establishments being set up, both in the cities and " at considerable places or *gunjes* in the mofussil, " consisting of a darogha and a staff of " jamadars, barkandazes and chaukidars. " Regulation XX of 1817 first laid down rules and orders governing the conduct of officers in charge of police stations and their subordinates, and their powers and duties in respect of offences committed within the limits of their jurisdiction. The system adopted in 1817 was retained with few modifications until 1861. The Mutiny caused a general break-up of the whole police force, which was afterwards reconstituted on a new basis. The police became a provincial body and fixed numbers were allotted to each district under separate district superintendents. The circles were increased in number and their boundaries rearranged. Since that time there has been no change in the composition of the force. Alterations have only been made with a view to securing greater convenience in the matter of circles and the position of the stations.

Police stations.

As constituted in 1881 there were twenty-three police stations and four outposts in Azamgarh. The former comprised Azamgarh, Sarai Mir, Gambhirpur and Nizamabad in the headquarters tahsil ;

Mehnagar, Bardah, Tarwa and Deogaon in tahsil Deogaon ; Ahraula, Atraulia, Pawai and Didarganj in Mahul ; Kandhrapur, Maharajganj, Sagri and Raunapar in Sagri ; Mau, Muhammadabad, Jahanaganj and Chiriakot in Muhammadabad ; and Dohri, Ghosi and Madhuban in tahsil Ghosi. Of the outposts, which were at Mubarakpur, Kopaganj, Rani ki Sarai and Koelsa, the first and second now alone remain. But the present arrangement will not long remain in force. In 1905 a scheme for the reallocation of the police circles, involving considerable reductions of establishment and re-arrangement of boundaries was proposed, and to this effect will gradually be given as circumstances permit. Under this scheme it is proposed to abolish four of the existing stations, namely, those of Sarai Mir, Jahanaganj, Mehnagar and Sagri, maintaining outposts at two, namely, Sarai Mir and Sagri ; and to establish a new station at Mubarakpur, replacing the outpost at that place. The villages which now fall within the circle of the Sarai Mir police station will be divided in equal portions between the circles of Ahraula, Didarganj and Nizamabad. The Jahanaganj circle will be absorbed in those of the Sadr Kotwali and Chiriakot ; while the Mehnagar circle will be merged in the circles of Gambhirpur, Pawai and Nizamabad. The circle now attached to the station at Sagri will be divided into two equal parts, half being given to the Dohrighat and half to the proposed station at Mubarakpur, the jurisdiction of the latter extending in addition over a number of villages at present attached to the Sadr Kotwali, Jahanaganj and Muhammadabad circles. When this scheme has been carried out the average area of the 20 police stations will be 107·2 square miles, and the average population in each 76,489 persons.

The regular civil police force, in addition to the superintendent, reserve inspector, prosecuting inspector and two circle inspectors, comprised in 1908, 56 sub-inspectors, 36 head-constables and 294 men. Of this force 50 sub-inspectors, 23 head-constables and 220 men were distributed at the various police stations, while six sub-inspectors, 13 head constables and 74 men were in reserve at Azamgarh. The armed police comprised a force of 137 men of all grades ; of these nine head-constables and 35 men were on fixed guards and other duties at the

Police fo

men were held in reserve at headquarters. Besides these, there is the municipal police force at Azamgarh, consisting of six head-constables and 30 men, recently absorbed into the civil police; the *chaukidars* in the Act XX towns, to the number of 55 men of all grades; the road patrols, 48 men in all; and the village *chaukidars* numbering 2,219. The road police patrol the provincial roads from Jaunpur and Ghazipur to Dohrighat and most of the metalled roads in the district, reporting to the nearest police station.

Crime. Statistics given in the appendix afford some idea of the district from the point of view of criminal administration.* The returns show that on the whole crime is light, and for the most part is of the stamp usually found in purely agricultural tracts. The commonest form of crime is theft, but the most remarkable feature of the statistics is the prevalence of offences against the public tranquillity and criminal trespass. This is due partly to outbreaks of religious fanaticism between the Hindus and Muhammadans particularly in the Muhammadabad tahsil, and partly to disputes regarding landed property. The landholders of the district are particularly tenacious of their rights and are quick to resent any supposed or real encroachment. But even such disputes have much decreased in recent years. Offences affecting life are not uncommon, but the comparative rarity of violent crime such as robbery and dacoity is noticeable. A considerable number of persons, however, have year by year to be bound over to keep the peace or to be of good behaviour under the preventive sections of the code of criminal procedure. There are no criminal tribes registered as such under the Criminal Tribes Act (XXVII of 1871) in the district ; but much of the petty theft and house burglary is committed by the Bhars and Doms, two castes with strong criminal tendencies. As is usually the case in other districts, years of scarcity or famine generally result in an increased volume of crime.

Infanticide. In early times the practice of infanticide was without doubt very prevalent in Azamgarh ; for as early as 1836 Mr. Thomason, who was then conducting the settlement of the district, drew attention to the terrible extent of the crime. The first repressive mea-

* Appendix, tables VII and VIII.

sures were taken after the introduction of Act VIII of 1870, under the provisions of which all the families of Bais, Bisen, Barwar, Chandel, Chauhan, Dikhit, Donwar, Gargbansi, Gautam, Hardwar, Kachhwaha, Kakan, Monas, Nandwak, Nikumbh, Palihar, Palwar, Raghubansi, Singhel, Sikarwar, Rathor and Sombansi Rajputs residing in the district were proclaimed as tribes suspected of practising female infanticide. In 1874 a revised set of rules was promulgated by the Local Government, laying down the procedure to be adopted in dealing with the proclaimed clans. In that year families of these Rajput clans comprising 12,953 persons were subject to the provisions of the Act. During the next fifteen years selected families were brought on or taken off the register of proclaimed persons according as the practice was held to have increased or died out, but no comprehensive steps were taken to deal with the whole matter of female infanticide until 1888. In that year orders were issued for the taking of an infanticide census "with the object not only of bringing back on the register families who had relapsed into crime, but also of giving innocent classes who have through accident failed to free themselves from supervision a fair opportunity of proving their innocence." This census was held during the cold weather of 1888-89, the report of the inspector-general of police was submitted on July 23rd, 1889, and orders were passed by the Government in July 1890. There were at that time 1,367 families proclaimed, but the census extended to all the families of the suspected clans, or a total of 2,396 families residing in 196 villages. The point that decided whether a village should be or should not be retained on the register was the proportion of girls to boys and as the Government were satisfied with the proportion in Azamgarh the rules were withdrawn entirely from the district in 1891. The chief offenders appear to have been the Bais Rajputs. Nothing has since occurred to show that the practice of female infanticide is still followed.

Jail.

The district jail is located at Azamgarh. It is officially described as a second class jail capable of holding between 300 and 500 prisoners and there is ample accommodation for the prisoners, whose number averaged in 1907 some 308 persons, twenty-one being

manufactures are carried on by the convicts, the principal articles produced being carpets, matting and coarse cloth; and the institution differs in no respect from those found elsewhere in the province.

Excise. Excise has formed a portion of the public revenues ever since the introduction of British rule. The system first adopted was that of farming areas of varying extent to native contractors who made their own arrangements for the manufacture and sale of country liquor; and it was not until 1861 that the ordinary distillery system was introduced into the district. That system remained in force in Azamgarh until the end of the year 1876-77, when its place was taken by the modified distillery system. Under the former system central distilleries were set up at certain places, usually tahsil headquarters, for licensed distillers, who manufactured their liquor in them under Government supervision and paid a fixed still-head duty. Under the modified distillery system on the other hand single licenses were granted for the monopoly of manufacture and vend of liquor within specified tracts; but all the liquor had to be manufactured in a Government distillery under the same rules as under the ordinary distillery system. In 1883, however, the modified distillery system was once more replaced by the ordinary distillery system, four distilleries being established at Azamgarh, Mahul, Sagri and Muhammadabad. No change of system has taken place in Azamgarh since that year, though the local distilleries have been abolished and have been replaced by large central distilleries at fixed centres. In these liquor is manufactured by licensed distillers, the buildings being secured by police guards and being under the supervision of excise inspectors, whose duty it is to gauge the liquor on issue and to see that none goes out for consumption without paying a fixed still-head duty. The authorized shops in Azamgarh are annually put up to auction and sold; and those who secure licenses for the vend of liquor are permitted to obtain their supplies from whatever distillery they find most convenient. The bulk of the country liquor consumed in Azamgarh is supplied from the central distillery at Jaunpur, the still-head duty on the liquor issued for consumption in the district being Rs. 2-8-0 per gallon of London proof spirit and Re. 1-14-0 per gallon of spirit 25° under proof. For the convenience

of licensed vendors in the district a bonded warehouse has lately been established at Azamgarh, to which liquor can be conveyed under bond from a central distillery and sold to the shopkeepers in the vicinity on payment of duty at the time of sale. The total consumption per head is very small, in spite of the presence of a large low-caste Hindu population, composed of Bhars, Pasis and Chamars. The amount consumed varies with the nature of the season, but it shows no general tendency to rise. From 1878 to 1907 it was 25,209 gallons on an average, the consumption having only exceeded 30,000 gallons twice, in 1898 and 1904. But in the preceding six years, 1892 to 1897, an average of only 15,915 gallons was consumed. Statistics of consumption and revenue for each year since 1891 will be found in the appendix.* But a better idea of the fluctuations of revenue may be obtained by taking the returns of a longer period. From 1878 to 1887 the average returns on account of still-head duty were Rs. 27,222 and from licenses Rs. 18,972, making, with a small addition for distillery fees, a total of Rs. 46,211. The receipts were greater in the latter than in the former half of the period, the highest figure being Rs. 71,691 in 1885-86. During the next ten years the income somewhat decreased owing to the falling off of consumption in the last six years, still-head duty producing Rs. 28,716 and license fees Rs. 14,612, a total of Rs. 43,404. Since that time there has been a recovery. This has been more marked in recent years since the effects of the famine of 1896-97 passed away. The averages for the ten years ending in 1907 were Rs. 40,758 for still-head duty and Rs. 16,626 for licenses, or Rs. 57,474 under all heads. The largest number of shops ever opened in Azamgarh was 244 in 1889-90; but since that year the number has been continuously reduced. In 1908 there were only 129 shops licensed to sell country liquor.

Tari.

A large sum is derived annually from the licenses to sell *tari*, the sap of the palmyra or toddy palm, no difference for revenue purposes being made between the unfermented and the fermented sap. This sum averaged Rs. 10,481 for the ten years ending in 1907. In the license is generally included the right to sell *sendhi*, a kindred

*Appendix, table XI.

drink to *tari* made from the sap of the wild date palm ; *darbahra*, a sort of beer formed by the fermentation of various herbs, which has a limited consumption in the district; and *boza*, a fermented liquor made from rice. Usually the right of vend of *tari* is sold for a whole pargana to a contractor ; but the number of licensed shops is fixed. In 1908, the latter numbered 206.

Hemp drugs. There is a considerable consumption of hemp drugs in Azamgarh, and in spite of the enhancements of duty on *ganja* and *charas* the income derived from this source is large. The income is obtained from the farm of the right to import and sell hemp drugs, the farm being generally sold triennially for convenience. From 1878 to 1887 the receipts averaged Rs. 17,120 annually. This figure rose to Rs. 19,475 in the ensuing decade. For the ten years ending with 1907 the annual average was no less than Rs. 37,228, the figures for the last four years of the series being over Rs. 50,000 a year. Statistics of consumption are not available before the year 1892. From that year until 1896-97 46·66 maunds of *ganja*, 18·50 maunds of *charas*, and 80 maunds of *bhang* on an average were annually consumed. These amounts have shewn no great decrease since. *Charas*, however, has to some extent displaced *ganja* in popular favour, for during the ten years ending in 1907 the consumption of the latter fell to an average of 34·80 maunds, while that of *charas* rose to 24·45 maunds. During the same period nearly 72 maunds of *bhang* have been annually consumed also. This amount is small considering the relative cheapness of the drug, while the quantity of *ganja* consumed is considerably larger than in most districts in the province. There were in 1906 ninety shops in the district licensed to sell drugs by retail.

Opium. Very little opium is consumed in Azamgarh ; but the lowness of consumption may be in part due to the existence of poppy cultivation in the district and the impossibility of preventing the use of crude opium. During the ten years ending in 1907 only 11·75 maunds were on an average sold every year, compared with an average of 10·57 maunds for the preceding decade. From 1878 to 1887 less than five maunds appear to have been annually sold. The income has naturally risen with the increase

the amount sold, for whereas it averaged only Rs. 1,693 per annum between 1878 and 1887, it was Rs. 3,986 in the next decade, and for the ten years ending in 1907 amounted to Rs. 5,032. Opium is sold both by official vendors and non-official vendors, the latter being the license holders of the authorized shops. Most of the receipts are derived from the fees paid by non-official vendors. Opium is sold to licensed vendors at Rs. 16 per *ser* and is retailed by them at four or five annas a *tola*. In 1908 there were 33 shops in the district licensed for the sale of the drug.

Registrat

For purposes of registration the district forms a registration district under the control of the judge of Azamgarh, who is registrar. Subordinate to him are five sub-registrars. These are in charge of the five sub-districts into which the district is for this purpose divided. The general constitution of registration districts and sub-districts dates from the year 1881. No modifications having been made in their limits in Azamgarh since that year. The local limits of the jurisdiction of the sub-registrars of Azamgarh, Deogaon and Mahul coincide with those of the tahsils; but those of the sub-registrar of Sagri include parganas Natthupur and Ghosi of tahsil Ghosi, as well as the villages transferred from Gorakhpur in 1904; while *tappas* Nasrullah and Nadwan, which now belong to tahsil Ghosi, fall within the registration sub-district of Muhammadabad. A departmental officer is posted to each sub-district to carry on the work of registration. The average number of documents registered in the Azamgarh district during the five years ending in 1908 was 4,200, and the aggregate value of the property affected amounted on an average to Rs. 14,75,915 every year. The total receipts on account of the registration of documents were during the same period Rs. 8,820.

Stamps.

A table in the appendix shows the annual receipts and charges on account of stamps for each year since 1891.* The figures show no remarkable variations and call for little comment. Stamp duties are collected under the Indian Stamp Act (II of 1899) and the Court-Fees Act (VII of 1870). During the last ten years the receipts have averaged Rs. 1,74,389 from all sources, of which over 80 per cent. is derived from court-fee stamps including

*Appendix, table XII.

copies. The average annual charges for the same period have been Rs. 2,649.

Income-tax.

The collection of income-tax under the present system dates from the introduction of Act II of 1886. This Act differed from its predecessors, the Income-tax Act of 1872 and the License-tax Acts VIII of 1877 and II of 1878, in that no account is taken of incomes derived from agriculture. The only important modification that has since taken place is the exemption of incomes under Rs. 1,000 according to the law of 1904. Statistics of collections and assessees since 1891, both for the whole district and the various tahsils, will be found in the appendix.* For the ten years preceding 1904, the average receipts amounted to Rs. 34,166 and the average number of assessees to 1,137. Between 1905 and 1908 the receipts fell to an average of Rs. 24,856, and the number of assessees to 489 only. The bulk of the tax is collected in tahsils Azamgarh and Muhammadabad, and the principal assessees are money-lenders, sugar manufacturers, pleaders and grain dealers.

Post-office.

The existing postal arrangements are the outcome of the development of two separate institutions. One of these is the imperial post, which was started in the earliest days of British rule. General post-offices were maintained at the headquarters of districts, and through communication was maintained between these along the main trunk roads by means of runners or mail carts. Away from these regular lines of traffic the only agency for the transmission of correspondence was the police. It was not until 1817 that a district postal service was established. This was under the control of the district magistrate, and as the original intention of its establishment was to facilitate communication with outlying police stations, district *dák* offices were established at the police stations. Letters were at first conveyed by runners, who were provided by the *zamindars* ; but in 1833 a postal cess was introduced to pay for the runners and the staff. The next step forward was taken in 1845 when the use of district *dák* was thrown open to the public. Paid letters for the district were handed over from the imperial post-office to the *nazir* or *dak muharrir* of the collector's court who arranged for their transmission to the district *dák* offices attached to the police stations. On arrival at these, paid

*Appendix, tables XIII and XIV

letters were delivered by village watchmen, while unpaid letters were delivered by head-constables, the receipt and despatch of letters devolving on the police *muharrirs*, who were remunerated with a commission. The system was troublesome to the police and inconvenient in every way, and in 1864 the entire management of the district dâk was taken over by the Postal department. Regular offices were now established at places where such a step seemed necessary, and each was supplied with a staff of postmen for the delivery of letters. The process of absorption, however, was only carried out gradually and it was not till the last decade of the century that district dâk offices disappeared from the Azamgarh district. At the present time, in addition to the head office at Azamgarh, there are 24 sub-offices and 22 branch offices in the district, as against 27 offices of all kinds in 1881. The work of the post-office has much increased during the last thirty years, not only in the matter of letters and parcels, but also in that of money-orders. Thus in 1880-81 the number of letters received was only 362,206, whereas in 1908-09 it amounted to 1,175,356, a figure which is far below that of some of the western districts. In the same year the enormous sum of Rs. 31,46,816 was paid out in money-orders. Of this some twenty-one lakhs were received from beyond the limits of the district. The remainder of the sum was made up of money-orders received within the district and much of it was on account of land revenue, the post-office being now employed to an increasing extent for the payment of revenue.

Telegraph.

In 1881 there was no telegraph line at all in the district. At the present time telegrams are received for transmission at all railway stations in the district. There are combined post and telegraph offices at Azamgarh, Mubarakpur, Mau and Dohrighat, so that now ample provision exists for the needs of all except perhaps the western portion of the district.

Municipalities.

The only municipality in the district is that of Azamgarh itself. Azamgarh was first constituted a municipality on June 23rd, 1870, under Act VI of 1868. The control of affairs is now vested in a board constituted under U. P. Act I of 1900. This board consists of 12 members, nine, including the chairman, being elected and the remaining three appointed. The income of the municipality is raised

by the imposition of octroi duties on articles introduced for consumption into the municipality, and is supplemented by miscellaneous receipts, such as slaughter-house fees, pound receipts and fines. In addition to these there is a tax on professions which was first imposed in 1884, and on horses and carriages, which dates from 1899. Rules relating to the election of members were first drawn up in 1884 under Act XV of 1883 and were subsequently revised in 1902 under Act I of 1900. Of various enactments extended to the municipality, mention may be made of the Vaccination Act (XIII of 1880), which has been in force since 1893; and section 34 of the Police Act (V of 1861), which dates from 1861.

Notified areas.

There are two notified areas under U. P. Act I of 1900 in Azamgarh: these are the towns of Mau and Mubarakpur. The provisions of Act XX of 1856 were extended to these two places in 1860, and they remained subject to that act until April 1st, 1908, when they were converted into notified areas. Section 34 of the Police Act (V of 1861) has been in force in Mau since 1861 and in Mubarakpur from 1895. The affairs of both towns are administered by committees of three members, appointed by the Government, the tahsildar of Muhammadabad being in each case the president. Income is raised by a tax on persons having property, carrying on a trade or practising a profession within the limits of the notified areas, and is supplemented by miscellaneous receipts such as fines, receipts from pounds, *tehbazari* dues and similar fees. Details of income and expenditure will be found in the articles on those places.

Act XX towns.

Besides the notified areas there are eight towns in the district administered under Act XX of 1856. The towns of Phulpur, Atraulia Maharajganj, Sarai Mir and Kopaganj were brought under the provisions of the Act in 1860; while it was extended to those of Muhammadabad, Dohrighat and Chiriakot in 1864. In these the income is mainly derived from the usual house-tax, the proceeds being devoted to the upkeep of a conservancy staff, the maintenance of a force of *chaukidars* for watch and ward, and minor local improvements. Details of the receipts and expenditure in each case will be found in the several articles on the towns in question. Section 34 of the Police Act is in force in Muhammadabad,

District board.

Outside these towns, local affairs in the district are managed by the district board, which in its present form dates from the year 1884. The board as now constituted consists of 24 members, of whom 19, including the chairman, are elected the remainder being appointed. Three members are elected, direct from each tahsil. The work entrusted to the board is of a multifarious description and comprises the management of the local roads and buildings, cattle-pounds, ferries and arboriculture. It also superintends the medical and educational administration and veterinary work. The income and expenditure under the chief heads for each year since 1891 will be found in the appendix.*

Education.

The question of state education was taken up in Azamgarh soon after the latter became a separate district, and though nothing was done so early in connection with primary education an effort was made to introduce secondary education by the establishment of an anglo-vernacular school at Azamgarh. The movement owed much of its inspiration to Mr. R. T. Tucker, joint-magistrate and deputy collector ; but his efforts in higher education appear to have received but little support. In 1844 Mr. Tucker himself was obliged to report that the school was very poorly attended especially in the higher classes. It was accordingly decided to withdraw Government support from the school, to transfer the teaching staff to the Benares college, and to make over the buildings and furniture to anyone who might be willing to continue the school as a private institution. The first attempt to extend education in the district having thus failed, the people were left to obtain such instruction as they could from the indigenous schools, of which there were 249 in the district in 1846, 161 teaching Persian or Arabic and 88 Sanskrit or Hindi. The next great step forward was taken in 1856. Two years before this Mr. Thomason had directed attention to the question of state education and had given a great impulse to the subject. In that year provision was made for secondary education by the establishment of eight *tahsili* schools at Azmatgarh, Chiriakot, Deogaon, Dohrighat, Maharajganj, Mahul, Mubarakpur and Nagara, and sixty-three primary or *halqa*-

*Appendix, table XV.

bandi schools were opened in selected villages. There were at the same time 291 private schools in existence open to Government inspection. Interrupted by the brief spell of unrest during the Mutiny, education made a fresh start in 1859. The *tahsili* schools remained eight in number, but those at Deogaon, Maharajganj and Mubarakpur were replaced by others at Mehnajpur, Azamgarh and Mau. These had 431 scholars on the rolls. There were besides 105 *halqabandi* schools with a total of 2,530 scholars, and 160 private institutions open to Government inspection were teaching 980 boys. In the following year a *tahsili* school was again opened at Maharajganj, raising the number nine, while the number of village schools rose to 112. It would, however, be tedious to trace in detail year by year the number of educational institutions in the district. This varied from time to time according to circumstances. It will be sufficient to notice only the salient points in the progress of education. In 1862 the Church Missionary Society opened an anglo-vernacular school at Azamgarh, to which the Government gave a grant-in-aid of Rs. 50 a month : this was raised to Rs. 100 in the following year. In 1864 the same body started the first institution for female education in the district, to which the Government gave an additional grant-in-aid of Rs. 30 a month, which was raised to Rs. 50 a month in the following year. In 1868 as a result of a wave of enthusiasm in favour of female education ten primary schools for girls were started in different parts of the district, and during the following year the church mission school was raised to the standard of a middle school, its grant-in-aid being increased to Rs. 200 a month. Another girls' school established in 1867 by the same society, received a grant-in-aid of Rs. 40 a month. In the same year the number of *tahsili* schools was reduced to six. This figure remained unchanged until 1872 when three *pargana* schools were opened. The number of village schools then was 100 with 3,445 scholars. In 1871 the grant of the church mission school was raised to Rs. 3,000 a year, and in 1873 the number of Government girls' schools was reduced to seven. Two years later the church mission school was raised to the standard of a high school and since that time it has been the only high school in the district. In 1880-81 there were five *tahsili* schools at Azamgarh, Mau, Jianpur, Mehnajpur and Mahul, three *pargana* schools at

Mubarakpur, Muhammadabad and Nizamabad with an average daily attendance of 467 pupils, and 135 *halqabandi* or village schools attended by 4,669 scholars. In addition to these six boys schools were receiving grants-in-aid from the Government or the municipal board of Azamgarh ; and there were three girls' schools maintained by the Government, two being entirely supported from the public revenues and one being aided.

Schools.

The number of both primary and secondary schools and the average number of scholars attending them are shown in the appendix* for each year since 1896-97. From the lists there given it will be seen that in 1908 there were two high schools. Both these are located in Azamgarh city and are known as the church mission school and the national high school. They are private institutions, receiving grants-in-aid from the Government. They have an average attendance of some 280 scholars, and send up candidates for the English middle examination and entrance examination of the Allahabad University. There are also eight middle vernacular schools with primary branches, situated at Azamgarh, Deogaon, Mahul, Jianpur, Muhammadabad, Mau, Ghosi and Surajpur, attended by 636 boys. The primary schools for boys in the district number 270, of which 60 are upper primary and 210 lower primary schools, 137 of the latter only receiving grants-in-aid. The girls' schools, which are all lower primary schools, number 26.

Literacy.

The progress of education in Azamgarh is to some extent illustrated by the returns of literacy recorded at successive enumerations. In 1881 only 3·4 per cent. of the male population could read and write. In 1891 the figure had risen to 4·2 per cent. and in 1901 to 6·8 per cent., the latter figure being considerably above the general average for the province. Similarly in the case of females the proportion was ·04 in 1881 and rose to ·09 in 1891 and ·16 at the last census. Of the whole population, therefore, 3·44 per cent. are literate. Although the figure is not in itself high, it is generally well in excess of that of other districts with the exception of Benares, Lucknow, Cawnpore, Agra and some others, where there is a large city population. As is usually the case in other districts, the Musalman population is much better educated

*Appendix, table XVIII.

than the Hindu. In the case of the former 8·06 per cent. of the males and ·48 per cent. of the females were returned as literate in 1901, while the corresponding figures for the Hindus were 6·54 and ·10 per cent. Over 75 per cent. of the literate population know the Nagri script alone. Of the remainder some 15 per cent. know the Persian script, and the rest are in some degree acquainted with both.

Cattle pounds.

All the cattle-pounds in the district with the exception of those at Azamgarh, Mau and Mubarakpur are under the control of the district board, which derives an annual profit of some Rs. 6,150 from this source. When first started cattle-pounds were managed by the district magistrate, but their administration was handed over to the district board in 1891. All the places where there are police stations have cattle-pounds, and there are others at Kopaganj, Surajpur, Dharampur and Domri, all in Ghosi.

Dispensaries.

The hospitals and dispensaries in charge of the district board are six in number. The chief of these is the hospital at Azamgarh, which is in the charge of an assistant surgeon and was opened in 1865. The first branch dispensary to be opened outside the headquarters of the district was that at Nagara ; this was a first-class branch dispensary, but was closed in 1880. In that year a second-class branch dispensary was opened at Mau, and another at Ahraula in 1887. Two years later in 1889 a similar institution was established by the Misses Sturmer at Kajha in the south-east of the district. To the maintenance of this its founders continue to subscribe. A second-class district board dispensary was built at Muhammadabad in 1894 ; and in 1896 a hospital for women in connection with the city hospital was opened at Azamgarh. In 1908 the Lalganj second class dispensary was started. All these are popular and efficient institutions, but, except in the hospital at Azamgarh, there is no accommodation for indoor patients. There are the usual police and jail dispensaries at Azamgarh.

Nazul.

The area of *nazul* land in this district, if the roads and sites of public buildings be excepted, is very small. It consists of but fiftee[n] acres of land in tahsils Nizamabad, Mahul, Ghosi and Muhammad-abad. The average income derived from these plots is Rs. 11 annually. There are two acres only under the management of th[e]

municipal board of Azamgarh, and six and-a-half acres under the control of the district board. Three acres are directly administered by the collector. The remainder, three and a half acres—consists of a large plot of land in the town of Mau which is occupied by the old fort and its outhouses. This were built by Chaman Ara Begam. This plot is now administered by the committee of the notified area of Mau and brings in an average income of Rs. 30 a year, some of the rooms in the building being rented to private persons and some used as an opium store.

CHAPTER V.

HISTORY.

Legendary and early history.

Practically nothing is known of the early history of the district. Azamgarh possesses no remains of much antiquarian value, and of the few that exist neither the origin nor the history are for the most part known. There are, it is true, many large deserted sites and forts and tanks to be seen in every tahsil; but little but vague legends attach to their builders. According to the traditions current among the present inhabitants the former occupants of the district were Bhars or Rajbhars, Soeris and Cherus. A Rajbhar chief named Asildeo is said to have lived at Dihduar in pargana Mahul; and the old tanks and mounds at that place are said to be signs of his power; but the Bachgoti Rajputs of Arara in *tappa* Nandaon claim him as their ancestor, repudiate for him the title of Rajbhar, and allege that he was an officer of a native government. One Ajodhya Rai, Rajbhar, is said to have resided in the old *kot* of Araon Jahanianpur in pargana Kauria, but he, like Asildeo, is claimed as an ancestor by the Palwar Rajputs; and a similar claim is advanced in the case of one Raja Garakdeo who lived in Sagri. A Raja Parichhat is said to have at one time held the tract now called Nizamabad, and to have occupied the old *kot* at Anwank, near which a battle was fought between him and the Muhammadans. It has been supposed that the Bhars may have had their headquarters in pargana Bhadaon. The name is said to have been originally Bharaon and to have been called after them; and the Bhar power may have extended over parts of Sikandarpur, both this pargana and Bhadaon having been formerly parganas of Azamgarh. Traditions of the Soeris are to be found only in pargana Deogaon to the north of the Gangi river; and those relating to Sengarias in the same pargana to the south of that stream. Chiriakot is associated with the Cherus, the name being locally derived from Cheru and *kot* a fort; and it is said to have been taken from them by the Sharqi kings of Jaunpur. The largest of the forts in the district is that of Ghosi, which according to tradition was built by a Raja Ghos. But there is a legend that the fort was erected by Asurs

or demons, who are also credited with having constructed a large excavation from the Kunwar to the Mangai river, as well as the supposed tunnel between Narja Tal and the fort of Chaubhaipur or Brindaban, over a mile distant. Tradition also gives some support to the idea that the district was included in the ancient kingdom of Ajodhya, for in Deolas of pargana Muhammadabad is a tank with rising ground near it, which is said to have formed the eastern gate of Ajodhya, that city, according to the legend, having had four gates all 42 *kos* distant from itself. But whoever may have been the early inhabitants of the country, there is no reason to doubt that the district fell within the kingdom first of the Mauryas and then of the Guptas, whose remains have been found on all sides north, south, east and west of it. The Chinese pilgrim, Hiuen Tsang, probably passed through the district about 637 A.D., on his way from Benares to Kusanagora, but he tells us nothing concerning any place in the district.

The Musalman conquest.

Some four hundred years later Azamgarh appears to have been included in the great Hindu kingdom of Kanauj, for a Sanskrit inscription engraved on a stone pillar, found at Dabhaon in pargana Deogaon, bears the name of Gobinda Chandra and the date *sambat* 1201, *viz.*, 1164 A.D. This chieftain however probably did not reign after 1152 A.D. ; so that the inscription must have been set up after his death. The district then passed with the neighbouring country into the hands of the Musalman conquerors ; and it is with their advent on the scene that authentic history begins. Details however are very scarce. It may be presumed from the analogy of other districts that it was the pressure of the Muhammadan invasions in the west that caused the Rajput tribes to leave their homes and seek new ones elsewhere. The Rajput settlements in Azamgarh may accordingly be ascribed to the eleventh and twelfth centuries with some degree of certainty. The Rajputs were followed in turn by the Musalmans ; and, although few of the Musalman families in the district can now carry back their descent beyond the time of the Jaunpur Sultans, it is probable that some Muhammadans had settled in it before then. The occupation of Mittupur, from which pargana Qariat Mittu derives its name, by Malik Mittu, of Bahrozpur by Malik Bahroz, of Mau Nathbhanjan by Maliks

Tahir and Qasim, of Shudnipur in pargana Ghosi by Malik Shudni, and of other places by others whose names and tombs are still preserved, was according to tradition and probably also in fact antecedent to the time of the Sharqi kingdom. The creed of the new-comers seems also to have made some progress in early days; and the conversion of the ancestors of many of the Zamindara communities is assigned to this period. The early occupation of the Muhammadans however was not very stable; and the traditions of some Hindu tribes point to their having supplanted Muhammadans in the possession of the land which they now hold. The existence in every pargana of old Muhammadan names for places, the origin of which names has been altogether forgotten and with which all trace of Muhammadan connection has been lost, indicates the same fact. At many places in the district are *shahidwaras*, spots where martyrs had been slain and were buried which are in consequence preserved from encroachment. Regarding the majority of these tradition is silent; neither the names nor the origin of the slain are remembered, nor the circumstances under which their deaths took place. Possibly some fell during the crescentade of Saiyad Salar Masaud Ghazi, who is said to have passed through the north of the district and rested awhile at Bhagatpur in pargana Sagri, where a fair is still held in his honour.

The foundation of Jaunpur.

It is not surprising that no mention is made of any place in this district by the Musalman historians; for it was a tract politically so unimportant that it attracted no attention while formidable foes were constantly threatening the territory of the Dehli Sultans on every side. Possibly the district was at times subject to the Musalman rulers of Bengal; but the eastern Sultans do not appear to have controlled Bihar till the time of the Lodi emperors, and Azamgarh is much more likely during the thirteenth century to have been debateable ground, sometimes owning allegiance to and at other times practically independent of the Musalmans. Early in the fourteenth century however an important change took place; for a seat of Musalman power was established near the borders of the district. In 1353 A.D. Sultan Firoz Shah made his first expedition to Bengal against Haji Ilias, who had assumed the sovereignty under the name of Shams-ud-din and had gained possession of all

the country as far west as Benares.* It is said that he took the route of Gorakhpur and Champaran, but probably he returned by way of Zafarabad in Jaunpur. At all events, when a second expedition was made in 1359 against Sultan Sikandar, the son of Shams-ud-din, Firoz Shah was compelled by reason of the rains to halt at Zafarabad. There he was struck with the suitability of the banks of the Gumti, where the road crosses the river, for the position of one of the cities which he had a mind to build. Orders were accordingly given for its erection; and so between the years 1359 and 1364 A.D. the famous city of Jaunpur was built, which long remained the seat of Muhammadan power in this portion of Hindustan. The fact that this power was consolidated over Azamgarh about the same time is attested by the discovery of a Persian inscription on a stone slab which once belonged to a mosque. This slab was discovered at Chakesar in pargana Ghosi, where a large *qasba* once existed, and bears the date 760 H. or 1359 A.D. and the name of Firoz Shah.

The Jaunpur kingdom.

The first governor of Jaunpur was the Sultan's son, Zafar; but his tenure of office seems to have been very brief. In 1376, when a general change was made in the various provinces, Jaunpur and Zafarabad fell to the lot of another son, Shahzada Nasir Khan, otherwise known as Bahroz Sultani, who was possibly Malik Bahroz the founder of Bahrozpur in Azamgarh. Next to him came his nephew Ala-ud-din; but with Ala-ud-din's successor a new era opened. This person was a eunuch named Malik Sarwar, who rose to be Khwaja Sara or head chamberlain, comptroller of the elephant stables, and governor of the city of Dehli under Muhammad *bin* Tughlaq. In 1389, when Nasir-ud-din Muhammad Shah *bin* Firoz ascended the throne, Malik Sarwar was made Wazir under the title of Khwaja-i-Jahan. He was displaced in the following year by Islam Khan, but regained his lost position in 1392 and continued in office under Sikandar and Mahmud. In 1393 the latter raised him to an even higher post. "Through the turbulence of the base infidels the affairs of the feoffs of Hindustan had fallen into confusion, so Khwaja-i-Jahan received the title of Malik-us-Sharq, or king of the east; and the administration of all Hindustan, from Kanauj to Bihar, was placed in his

*E. H. I., III, p. 254.

charge." In May 1394 he went to Jaunpur, and by degrees got the feofs of Kanauj, Karra, Sandila, Dalmau, Bahraich, Bihar and Tirhut into his possession. "He put down many of the infidels and restored the forts which they had destroyed. The Rai of Jajnagar and the king of Laknauti now began to send to Khwaja-i-Jahan the elephants which they used to send (as tribute) to Dehli."* The viceroy next declared his independence and assumed the title of Atabuk-i-Azam. This was the origin of the Jaunpur kingdom, which lasted till 1474 when Sultan Husain was driven out by Bahlol Lodi; but it would be foreign to the history of the district to trace the fortunes of the Sharqi dynasty step by step. Azamgarh was dominated from Jaunpur. It contained itself no important place, so far as we know, which was the seat of administration for the surrounding parganas, and a Hindi inscription on a stone which is built in over the doorway of a small temple at Kopaganj and is dated *sambat* 1529 or 1472 A.D., is the only archæological relic in the district which dates from the period of the Jaunpur kings. The many traditions related by the Muhammadan families in the district however regarding the settlement of their ancestors in Azamgarh are ample testimony to the fact that the district formed an integral part of the Jaunpur kingdom and remained practically undisturbed during the period of its rule.

The Lodis.

In 1474 Sultan Husain was driven out of Jaunpur by Bahlol Lodi and retired towards Bahraich, followed by Bahlol. The latter then took possession of Jaunpur, and left Mubarak Khan to govern it, while Qutb Khan Lodi and Khan Jahan with some other nobles were left in the territory of Manjhauli or Majhauli in Gorakhpur.† The district then unquestionably fell within the possessions of the Lodi Sultans. The latter were for a short time ousted by Sultan Husain, but their power was speedily re-established on Bahlol's return, when Barbak Shah the Sultan's son was set up as Sultan of Jaunpur. In 1492 A.D. we learn that the *zamindars* of the province of Jaunpur, headed by the Bachgoti Rajputs, collected a force of nearly 100,000 men and deposed Mubarak Khan, governor of Jaunpur; while Barbak Shah, unable to offer resistance, abandoned the place. Sikandar Lodi who had succeeded

* E. H. I., IV, p. 29.

† *Ibid*, V. p. 90.

Bahlol in 1488 A.D., marched to Barbak's assistance, and a battle was fought at Katgarh in the Rai Bareli district, in which the rebels were signally defeated.* Barbak Shah was once more set up at Jaunpur, but his administration appears to have been weak; for he could not maintain his position against the opposition of the *zamindars* and was deposed by Sikandar Lodi. The rebellion of the *zamindars* appears to have broken out in consequence of the intrigues of Husain ; for after he had been defeated near Benares by Sikandar Lodi and pursued into Bihar there was no further trouble. Sikandar Lodi is the reputed founder of Sikandarpur, which until 1879 belonged to the Azamgarh district.

The Afghans.

In 1526 Ibrahim Lodi was overthrown by Babar at Panipat and the Afghan nobles in the east lost no time in consolidating their own power. Indeed Darya Khan Lohani the governor of Bihar had openly rebelled during Ibrahim's reign, and his son Bahadur Khan assumed the royal state under the name of Muhammad Shah. He commanded a large force and extended his possessions westwards, defeating and then winning over to his side Nasir Khan Lodi, who held Ghazipur.† Muhammad Shah appears to have remained nominal king of Bihar, but his hold on that province was not very certain and on Jaunpur it was probably merely nominal. He was succeeded by his son Jalal Khan Lohani, who took the name of Jalal-ud-din Shah ; but his reign was short, for he was supplanted by his minister Sher Khan, who was already powerful and afterwards became emperor of Dehli under the name of Sher Shah ; and Sher Khan became the real ruler of Bihar and Jaunpur.

The Mughals.

At this time Babar had established his rule over a large tract of country stretching from "Bahrah to Bihar," Nusrat Shah was king of Bengal, and Sher Khan was reckoned among the number of the Mughal adherents. In 1528 Nusrat Shah invaded Bihar and Babar advanced to repel him. Sher Khan instead of joining Babar joined Mahmud Lodi, son of Sikandar Lodi, who styled himself king of Bihar ; and he and Nusrat Shah of Bengal fought an action with Babar near the confluence of the Ghagra and the Ganges, in which they were defeated. The Afghans fled across the

* E. H. I., V., p. 93. | † *Ibid.*, p. 105.

Ghagra in the direction of Lucknow, and were followed by Babar who crossed the river in pargana Sagri of this district. The province of Bengal was then entrusted to Mirza Muhammad Zaman, and in 1529 a treaty of peace was arranged with the king of Bengal. On the death of Babar the Afghans again assumed a position of independence. Sher Khan, though remaining nominally subject to Mahmud Lodi, gradually strengthened his own position. In 1531 he obtained possession of the fortress of Chunar, and in 1532 he came to terms with Humayun. Two years later he took advantage of Humayun's absence in Gujerat to bring all Bihar and Jaunpur under his control, and, Nusrat Shah of Bengal dying about the same time, he seized the opportunity to increase and consolidate his power over all the east. He defeated Mahmud Shah, the successor of Nusrat Shah, in battle and took possession of Gaur ; and when Humayun returned from Gujerat and resolved to settle affairs in Bengal and Bihar he proposed to give up Bihar to the emperor on condition of remaining ruler of Bengal. Humayun first agreed to this suggestion, but was ultimately persuaded by Mahmud Shah to try the fortune of war. In 1538 Humayun reached Gaur, but while he rested there the country behind him fell into Sher Khan's hands : he was forced to retreat and defeated first at Chaunsa on the Ganges and then again at Kanauj in 1540, with the result that he left Hindustan and the whole country fell into the hands of Sher Shah.

The Sur dynasty.

Azamgarh continued under the control of Sher Shah and his son Islam Shah till 1554 A.D. There is a Sanskrit inscription on a stone sugarcane press in the town of Azamgarh which is dated 1553 A.D., the year before Islam Shah died ; but no other relic dating from the time of the Sur kings remains. On Islam Shah's death civil war once more ensued between the various claimants to the throne, and owing to the confusion of the historical records of the period it is impossible to say with certainty to whom the district belonged. Nominally, it would appear, both Bihar and Jaunpur were in the hands of Muhammad Adil Shah, who continued to reign in name at least till his death in 1556 at the hands of Bahadur Shah of Bengal. In 1555 Humayun succeeded in re-establishing himself at Agra, while in 1556 Akbar overthrew the Afghans at Panipat and gained possession of Delhi.

The Afghans however remained in possession of Jaunpur till 1559 A.D., when Ali Quli Khan, Khan Zaman, was sent to effect the reduction of Jaunpur and brought this district under the imperial control.*

Akbar.

Ali Quli Khan was the first governor of Jaunpur and its dependencies, including Benares, Ghazipur, Chunar and Zamania after the reoccupation of Hindustan by the Mughals. In 1565 on account of the severe proceedings taken against Abdulla Khan Uzbek, Ali Quli Khan, along with Sikandar Khan and Ibrahim Khan, took fright and revolted.† He began operations by plundering the country in the neighbourhood of Karra-Manikpur, but subsequently when the emperor had taken the field in person against him, he was driven across the Ganges, while the imperial forces advanced and occupied Jaunpur. Ali Quli Khan now encamped at the ferry of Narhan on the Ganges, and finding himself worsted resolved to seek the forgiveness of the emperor. Negotiations were accordingly opened, and ultimately through the good offices of Munim Khan, Khan-Khanan, a pardon was secured for the rebel, on condition that he should not cross the Ganges while the emperor was in the neighbourhood and that he should send his agents to court, when the emperor returned to Dehli.‡ His *jagirs* were then restored to him. Having settled this matter the emperor proceeded to Chunar; but no sooner had he gone than Ali Quli Khan crossed the river and went to Muhammadabad in this district and from there sent out parties to occupy Jaunpur and Ghazipur. The emperor now marched in person against him: a dash was made at Ghazipur, but the garrison left the place and joined Ali Quli Khan at Muhammadabad. Ali Quli Khan then left Muhammadabad and fled to the Siwalik hills, while parties sent out to intercept him, after scouring the jungles along the Ghagra, returned to the royal camp. Meanwhile Bahadur Khan, Ali Quli Khan's brother, went to Jaunpur, where his mother had been confined by the emperor's order, captured the fort by escalade, liberated his mother and formed the design of attacking the imperial camp. But on the emperor moving on Jaunpur, he gave up his design and retreated across the Ganges. It was about this

* E. H. I., V., p. 259. † *Ibid*, p. 295. ‡ *Ibid*, p. 302.

time, when the emperor was operating in the neighbourhood of Nizamabad, that the annual *majlis-i-wazn* was held.* According to this custom the emperor was weighed twice every year on his birthday, both according to the solar and the lunar reckoning, against gold, silver and other things, which were afterwards distributed among the poor. When the emperor reached Jaunpur he settled down there and sent off strong forces to capture the fugitives. But Ali Quli Khan saved further trouble by leaving his place of concealment and coming to crave forgiveness of the emperor, who once more pardoned him and reinstated him in all his *jagirs*. It was not long however before this rebellious vassal was once more in open revolt; for in 1567, taking advantage of the emperor's absence at Lahore, Ali Quli Khan and his brother again threw off their allegiance.† The emperor returned hastily to Agra, collected his army and advanced in person towards Kanauj. At Rai Bareli he heard that the rebels were making towards Kalpi. The latter were ultimately caught at the village of Mankarwal in the district of Allahabad and defeated, Khan Zaman himself being amongst the slain. The emperor then went to Benares and thence to Jaunpur, where he conferred all the *jagirs* of Ali Quli Khan on Munim Khan, Khan Khanan. Jaunpur with all its dependencies remained under the rule of Munim Khan till 1574, when he was summoned to take part in the expedition against Daud Khan, ruler of Bengal and Bihar. When the latter had been crushed, Munim Khan was appointed governor of Bengal. While on his return towards Agra the emperor halted at Jaunpur and made arrangements for its government. Jaunpur, Benares and sundry other *mahals* and parganas, including no doubt those of this district, were placed directly under the royal exchequer and the management was entrusted to Mirza Mirak Rizvi and Sheikh Ibrahim Sikri, the former having been once the *vakil* of Ali Quli Khan. From this time forward little is heard of Jaunpur; mention is made by the historians of various governors who held Jaunpur in *jagir*; but none of them are important as regards this district‡ and indeed Jaunpur ceased to be a place of any importance, for the viceregal court was moved to Allahabad in 1575.

* *Ibid* p. 307. † E. H. I., V., p. 318. ‡ *Ibid*, pp. 416 to 421.

Akbar's administration.

In the territorial administration of Akbar the whole district of Azamgarh with the single exception of pargana Belhabans fell within the *sarkar* of Jaunpur and the *suba* of Allahabad. All the parganas now existing, except Mahul, Atraulia and Bela-Daulatabad, are mentioned by name in the *Ain-i-Akbari*, though their limits have no doubt undergone considerable changes. None of the *mahals* as they existed in 1556 appear to have been very large, as far as the cultivated area is concerned, and some were remarkably small. Muhammadabad, the largest, had an area of 56,350 *bighas*, paid a revenue of 3,229,063 *dams*, and supplied 1,000 foot and 30 horse to the imperial army. The *mahal* of Mau was assessed to a net demand of 209,067 *dams* on an area of only 2,645 *bighas*, its military contingent being only 50 foot-soldiers. Qariat Mittu is assigned an area of 8,991 *bighas* and a revenue of 551,410 *dams*, its contribution to the army being 300 foot and 10 horse. In Ghosi the cultivated area is returned at 18,913 *bighas*, assessed to a demand of 1,037,934 *dams*; but in spite of its larger area it supplied but 200 foot-soldiers and 20 cavalry. Sagri furnished a similar force, but its area amounted to 19,792 *bighas* and its revenue to 1,274,721 *dams* ; while Gopalpur had an area of but 3,266 *bighas* and paid a revenue of 18,043 *dams*, its military contingent being fixed at 100 foot only. A better populated tract was Natthupur, which was assessed to 273,472 *dams* on an area of 4,948 *bighas* ; it also furnished 200 foot and 10 horse ; while Chakesar which is now absorbed in Ghosi, in addition to a contingent of 100 foot and 10 horse, yielded a revenue of 286,586 *dams* on a cultivated area of 5,415 *bighas*. Nizamabad too was a small *mahal* of only 6,074 *bighas*, but it paid 602,592 *dams* in revenue, and supplied no less than 4,000 infantary and 200 horse for the army. In Deogaon the area was 44,524 *bighas*, the net demand 2,583,205 *dams*, and the military contingent 1,000 foot and 25 horsemen ; while in Chiriakot 807,848 *dams* were assessed on 14,153 *bighas* and the military force was fixed at 200 foot and 20 horse. Of the *mahals* that now make up tahsil Mahul, the only one that is mentioned by name in the *Ain-i-Akbari* is Kauria, Mahul and Atraulia having been subsequently formed under circumstances already narrated. Kauria had an area of

5,764 *bighas*, a revenue demand of 341,890 *dams*, and supplied a force of 200 infantry. Mahul and Atraulia represent no single pargana of the *Ain-i-Akbari* having been carved out of Tilahani, Ungli, Nigun and Surhurpur. It remains to mention pargana Belhabans. This belonged to *sarkar* Ghazipur ; it had an area of 12,306 *bighas*, paying 652,360 *dams* revenue, and furnished 10 horse and 100 foot for the army.

The reven[ue]

It is obviously impossible to determine the exact relation of the revenue in Akbar's reign to that now collected, for the reason that the boundaries have been in most cases so extensively altered. Moreover it would be difficult to say how much trust is to be placed in the figures given in the *Ain-i-Akbari*. The details of area were, it is supposed, furnished by the *qanungos* and other pargana officers ; and they probably understated rather than exaggerated them. Thus the figures for Nizamabad, even after allowance is made for subsequent transfers, are so manifestly insufficient that the suspicion that error has crept in can hardly be avoided. Taking the figures as they stand, the cultivated area of the district in 1556 was 106,003 acres; and the revenue payable, transposed into money of the present day, amounted to Rs. 2,52,643. The incidence therefore amounted to Rs. 2·38 per acre or almost exactly the same as that assessed during the settlement operations between 1902 and 1905. But as the value of money was about four times as great then as now, the demand—if it was ever collected in full—must have been extremely heavy. Akbar professedly took one-third of the average value of the gross produce of the land ; but payments were made in cash, and the burden of the demand must have been rendered more severe by the necessity of finding money in place of grain. Our knowledge however of the domestic history of the population at the time is not extensive enough for any but the roughest comparisons to be drawn.

The later Mughals.

It is only in the latter part of the seventeenth and the early part of the eighteenth century that the Azamgarh district begins to have a separate political existence. This result was brought about by the severance of the Azamgarh parganas from Jaunpur and their grant to a local potentate, who received or assumed the

title of Raja of Azamgarh. Something has already been said concerning the family in Chapter III; but for the proper understanding of the history of the district it is necessary to fill in the outline there given in greater detail. The family from which the Rajas sprang was one of Gautam Rajputs of Mehnagar in pargana Nizamabad; and the story of its rise to power is stated to be as follows. One Chandarsen Gautam had two sons, Sagar and Abhiman. Their share in their ancestral village was small, and Abhiman, while still a youth, having been worsted in a dispute with some of the co-sharers, became a Muhammadan and left his home to seek employment elsewhere. He is said to have entered the service of a commander of horse, and either was made or by his own consent became a eunuch under the name of Daulat. Having by a lucky chance come under the notice of the emperor he was taken into the imperial service and eventually became a *nazir* of the household. He had of course no heirs of his own body, but Sagar, his brother, had five sons, Harbans, Dayal, Gopal, Jai Narayan and Khark; and to the eldest of them was transferred most of the wealth and local influence which Daulat's position had gained for him. Now it is alleged by those who claim to be descended from Harbans that Daulat received an imperial grant of the *zamindari* of twenty-two parganas on his conversion to the faith of Islam. But the *sanad* produced to support this contention is a document of doubtful authenticity, and apart from this there is no evidence that the earliest possessions of the family extended beyond the pargana of Nizamabad. Khwaja Daulat Khan is several times mentioned incidentally by the historian Budaoni; and from these references to him it would appear that, being possessed of ability and address, he rose from a subordinate position to one of influence at the imperial court. His fortunes reached a climax when, in the seventh year of the reign of Jahangir or 1612 A.D., as we know from the *Tuzuk-i-Jahangiri*, he was made a commander of fifteen hundred horse and was appointed *faujdar* or military governor of Jaunpur. The former office carried with it a substantial salary or *jagir*, the latter made him the chief executive officer in that part of the country in which his native place was situated. Neither the date of Daulat's death nor the place of his interment are known. But his

nephew Harbans is said to have followed his uncle's example in becoming a Muhammadan, and with money supplied by his uncle he built a masonry fort at Mehnagar and a mausoleum within the fort ; he also constructed or repaired the large irrigation embankment known as the Haribandh in the extensive tract of rice country to the south of Mehnagar. In carrying out these works Harbans is said to have been aided by imperial elephants and horsemen ; and indeed a building like the fort could not have been constructed without the connivance or permission of the imperial officers at Jaunpur or Allahabad. Harbans likewise threw up or improved the mud fort at Harbanspur on the south bank of the Tons in pargana Nizamabad, and his Rani, Ratanjot, a Bais Rajputin of Kharkpur in pargana Belhabans, obtained a piece of land from the *zamindars* of Sithwal in pargana Nizamabad and established the bazar which is still known as Rani-ki-Sarai. *Tappa* Daulatabad apparently derives its name from Daulat Khan, and *tappa* Harbanspur from Harbans ; while Dayal, one of the latter's brothers, settled a village in Nizamabad pargana at a place then called Kathiamau, and gave it the name of Dayalpur. Khark, another brother, took possession of the village of Khutauti then in *tappa* Daulatabad, changing its name to Singhpur: but on his death his family was dispossessed by Harbans. Gopal left his name in Gopalpur of *tappa* Daulatabad, and Gambhir, one of the sons of Harbans, who lived apart from his father, constructed the fort of Gambhirpur. Harbans seems to have been the first to assume the title of Raja. The date of his death is not recorded, but from an old document he appears to have been alive in 1629 A.D. in the reign of Shahjahan. The facts above narrated serve to show that in the early part of the seventeenth century the successors of Khwaja Daulat were in possession of a large tract of country in Nizamabad and Deogaon ; and probably they were reckoned as the *zamindars* or revenue payers. With the death of Daulat the further aggrandizement of the family was probably stayed. Of Harbans' two sons Gambhir and Dharnidhar the former died childless and the latter was succeeded by his three sons Bikramajit, Rudr and Narayan, the first of whom aggrandized himself at the expense of his brothers. He does not

appear to have adopted the title of Raja, but like his predecessors he embraced the faith of Islam, and he had a Muhammadan wife, who bore him two sons, Azam and Azmat: with these the power of the family seems to have made a fresh start. They are the first of their family whose names are to be fo und in places beyond the limits of *tappas* Harbanspur, Dayalpur and Daulatabad. Azam gave his name to the town of Azamgarh, which he founded in 1665, and the fort which became the family's chief place of residence; while Azmat constructed the fort and settled the bazar of Azmatgarh in pargana Sagri. What their exact position in the district was, it is difficult to say. There is no evidence that the title of Raja was conferred upon them by royal command, but they seem to have been admitted to the revenue management of other parganas besides Nizamabad. Probably they went by the title of Raja among their retainers and neighbours, while they held in relation to the imperial governors a semi-official position similar to that which was subsequently acquired by the Saiyids of Mahul. Thus in 1655 A.D. Aliverdi Khan *faujdar* of Jaunpur addresses a *parwana* to Azam, *Zamindar* of Qariat Mittu, in connection with revenue matters pending before the *faujdar*; while in 1660 A.D. Ghazanfar Khan *faujdar* addresses Azam as Raja Azam, directing him to destroy the fort of Mittupur and to join the *faujdar*. On the other hand in 1677 Asad-ullah Khan, Wazir of Aurangzeb, addresses Azmat without the title of Raja. The fate of Azam is uncertain; according to one account he went to court leaving Azmat in charge of the parganas. He was sent with some troops to the Deccan; but was subsequently imprisoned for some unknown offence at Kanauj. On his death his body was conveyed to Azamgarh and was interred in the village of Bagh Lakraon close to the town. About Azmat's history there is no doubt. After holding his parganas with firmness for many years, he allowed his revenue to fall into arrears and refused to liquidate the balances. In 1688 A. D. an officer named Chabile Ram was sent against him, and Azmat pretending submission permitted the fort of Harbanspur to be occupied by Chabile Ram's force. The fort was then surrounded and the force shut in. But Chabile Ram managed to convey information to Himmat Khan, Subahdar of

Allahabad, who seems to have been at Jaunpur at the time, and the latter at once moved to his relief. Azmat was driven out of Azamgarh, and fleeing northward with the imperial force in pursuit he attempted to cross the Ghagra into Gorakhpur. But the people on the other side opposed his landing and he was either shot in midstream or was drowned in attempting to escape by swimming. During Azmat's lifetime his eldest son Ikram had taken part in the management of the estates, and at Azmat's death he seems to have been left in possession together with Muhabbat, another son; while Sardar and Naubat the remaining sons were taken away and for a time detained as hostages for their brother's good behaviour. The succession of Ikram finally confirmed the title of his family to the *zamindari* or, as it may now be called, the *taluqa* of Azamgarh. Ikram left no heirs and was succeeded by Iradat, son of Muhabbat; but the real ruler all along had been Muhabbat and after Ikram's death he continued to rule in his son's name. In his time the prosperity of the Rajas of Azamgarh was at its greatest. The capital Azamgarh was surrounded by a large mud embankment, which enclosed a circle of country seven or eight miles in diameter. The remains of the mound are still to be seen here and there. *Thanas* or outposts, protected by small mud forts, were established in the different parganas and occupied by the Raja's officials and police. The most eastern of these forts was Madhuban in pargana Natthupur and the most western was at Gohnarpur in pargana Atraulia. The district was subdivided into *zilas* containing a number of *thanas*; and over each *zila* a *thanadar* was appointed, who collected the revenue from the village *zamindars* and remitted it to Azamgarh. Within the district the Raja's chief opponents seem to have been the Palwar Rajputs. But a line of forts was thrown up across the Palwar country from Naoli on the south to Gohnarpur on the north and these were held by a redoubtable lieutenant called Nila Upadhya. His name still lives in the recollection of the people of the Palwari and some of his mighty deeds are still celebrated in song. The period of Muhabbat Khan's subordinate rule however was not entirely peaceful. He always avoided the payment of revenue as far as possible, and in 1703 his

lieutenant, Nila Upadhya, attacked and slew near the *kot* at Tilsaras in pargana Kauria some troops who had been sent under an officer named Mirza Shekha to demand revenue from the Raja. It is not known how the matter was settled, but no ill consequences appear to have resulted. Soon after the death of Aurangzeb again in 1707 the Rajputs of Bhojpur in Bihar became very turbulent, and one of their chiefs by name Kunwar Dhir Singh seems to have taken possession of a large tract of country which extended along both banks of the Ghagra a long way to the west of Bihar, including the northern parts of Sagri, Ghosi and Chakesar in Azamgarh. Muhabbat seem to have been unable to dislodge him ; and the ruins of a masonry house and *baradari*, which were erected by Dhir Singh, are still to be seen near Lalghat in *tappa* Chenchul. His name is familiar to the people in that portion of the district and stories are still current of the cruelties he used to perpetrate in order to extort the revenue. But in 1714 or 1715 A.D., Sarbuland Khan, *nazim* of Allahabad, was sent into Bihar to suppress Dhir Singh's rebellion. Organizing a large force, which was joined by a contingent from Azamgarh headed by Muhabbat Khan, Sarbuland Khan drove Dhir Singh back to one of his forts near Padrauna in Gorakhpur where he was slain ; and Muhabbat's authority was restored in the northern parganas. From the time of Farrukhsiyar's accession in 1713 A.D., the imposing fabric of the Mughal empire began to fall asunder. The central power at Dehli rapidly withered and decayed ; and as the control relaxed the provincial governors usurped more and more the attributes of sovereignty and raised themselves to a position of independence. To this period of disintegration can be traced the origin of nearly all the great Muhammadan principalities which the British found existing when they first interfered in the affairs of Hindustan ; but the only one of these which concerns this district is that of Oudh, which originated with Saadat Khan Burhan-ul-Mulk appointed *subahdar* of Oudh in 1732 A.D. Some time previous to the year 1730 the emperor Muhammad Shah bestowed the four *sarkars* of Jaunpur, Benares, Chunar and Ghazipur on a nobleman named Nawab Mir Murtaza Khan, Muhabbat Khan ostentatiously refused

payment to the *jagirdar*, and on one occasion, when the latter had come to Azamgarh in person to demand it, allowed him ignominiously to depart empty handed. Murtaza Khan's *jagir* was soon after transferred to Saadat Khan on the condition that the latter should pay seven lakhs annually to Murtaza Khan; and Saadat Khan was not prepared to put up with such recusancy. He visited Jaunpur and resolved to punish Muhabbat Khan. The latter attempted to appease Burhan-ul-mulk and made large offers of money; but the Nawab intent on making an example of him refused all offers and occupied Azamgarh. Muhabbat at first fled across the Ghagra into Gorakhpur; but he eventually returned and submitted himself to the governor. He was put into confinement and sent to Gorakhpur as a hostage for his son's conduct, the latter being reinstated in the *taluqa*. Muhabbat Khan died in confinement at Gorakhpur. Neither during the rule of Muhabbat nor during that of Iradat, otherwise known as Akbar Shah, was the district exposed to the warfare and disorder that were desolating other parts of Hindustan; and it was not until the year 1750-51 that the Rajas of Azamgarh were drawn into the vortex of the intrigues and political struggles of the time. Saadat Khan had been succeeded in the governorship of Oudh by Safdar Jang in 1737. The latter became Wazir of the empire in 1748 and engaged in far reaching intrigues for the overthrow of the Bangash Afghans of Farrukhabad and of the Rohillas. In 1750 he was temporarily defeated by the Afghans under Ahmad Khan Bangash, who forthwith attempted to gain possession of Oudh and its dependencies. Ahmad Khan had married a daughter of Sher Zaman Khan, a Dilazak Pathan who was settled in Jaunpur, and while engaged in the siege of Allahabad in 1750, appointed Sahib Zaman Khan, his wife's cousin, to be his viceroy in Jaunpur, Azamgarh, Mahul, Akbarpur and other places. At this time Raja Balwant Singh of Benares was in possession of Jaunpur, nominally in subjection to Safdar Jang. Sahib Zaman Khan was ordered to eject Balwant Singh and was joined both by Akbar Shah, Raja of Azamgarh, and by Shamsher Jahan, *zamindar* of Mahul. An advance was made on Jaunpur by the united forces, and the fort was captured after only six hours' fighting. Sahib Zaman however did not feel

himself strong enough to operate further against Balwant Singh and after settling matters by negotiation, retired to Nizamabad, where he fixed his headquarters and remained for sometime. Meanwhile Safdar Jang had collected an army and advanced to Farrukhabad; Ahmad Khan found himself forced to raise the siege of Allahabad; and Balwant Singh at once took the opportunity to return to Jaunpur and demand the restoration of the territory of Jaunpur. Affairs were arranged with Balwant Singh by a compromise ; but Sahib Zaman not feeling himself secure in Azamgarh fled beyond the Ghagra and the district once more reverted to the Nawab Wazir. Nothing appears to have come of Akbar Shah's connection with Sahib Zaman, and this action must have been overlooked by Safdar Jang ; for Akbar Shah remained in possession till 1756 when he resigned the *taluqa* to his son Jahan Shah. Muhabbat Khan had four sons, Iradat, Sufi Bahadur, Jahangir and Husain. The second and fourth had no issue, but Jahangir had two sons, Azam and Jahanyar. Not long after Iradat's death Azam began to assert his superior right to the *taluqa* over Jahan, who was an illegitimate son of Iradat. The dispute was at first settled by a division of the *taluqa*, but eventually Jahan drove out Azam who took refuge in Jaunpur. Jahan Shah then fell into arrears with his revenue, and in 1761 A.D. Mu'azzam Khan, *sazawal*, was sent by the Wazir to collect it from him. A meeting took place between the Raja and the *sazawal* near Nizamabad, and a quarrel arose in which both were killed. Confusion ensued at Azamgarh and Beni Bahadur the Wazir's minister had to pay a visit in person to settle it. The result of this visit was, not the confirmation of Azam in the *taluqa*, but its transfer to Fazl Ali governor of Ghazipur. Fazl Ali held it for three years only. His rule was a most oppressive one ; and partly on account of the complaints made by the *malguzars* and partly through the intrigues of Balwant Singh, Beni Bahadur returned in 1764 and ejected Fazl Ali. Arrangements for the collection of the revenue were then made with local farmers, Didar Jahan of Mahul, Mir Abdullah of Sarai Mir, Mir Fazl Ali of Muhammadabad, Mittarsen Brahman and Turab Iraqi. Safdar Jang died in 1757, and in 1764 his successor Shuja-ud-daula was defeated by the British at Buxar. The result

of the defeat was the cession of the Benares province to the company and temporary confusion in the rest of the Nawab's dominions, during which Azam Khan was able to establish his authority in the district, as well as gain favour with the Wazir by forwarding to Lucknow, some of the property lost in the retreat from Buxar. He was accordingly permitted to hold the *taluqa* till his death in 1771 A.D. On the death of Azam, Ilich Khan the Nawab's minister visited Azamgarh. Neither Jahan nor Azam had left any issue ; and Jahanyar, Azam's brother, neither cared nor was fit to be made Raja. The *taluqa* was therefore consigned to the care of a *chakladar*, and became known as the *chakla* of Azamgarh ; and so it remained till the year 1801. By article I of the treaty concluded between the Nawab Saadat Ali Khan and the Governor-General on November 10th,1801,* much territory was ceded to the East India Company in payment of the arrears due to the Company, and in the ceded territory were included *chakla* Azamgarh, pargana Mau Nathbhanjan and *taluqa* Mahul, which were estimated to yield a revenue of Rs. 8,64,002. The various measures taken to reduce the District to order and the administrative changes that from time to time introduced have been detailed elsewhere, so that from this time there is no history to record till the Mutiny.

The Mu[tiny] at Azam[garh].

The military garrison at Azamgarh in May 1857 consisted of the 17th Native Infantry, some five hundred strong. They were brigaded with the 19th and 34th Regiments at Lucknow ; and they were under grave suspicion of disloyalty as they were known to have entertained men of the disbanded 19th Regiment in their lines. To meet any outbreak the collector's court-house was fortified, the verandahs being closed up with loop-holed walls, the parapets crowned with sand bags, and the entrance gate commanded by two small guns, covered by a trench, in the charge of native gunners and selected men of the 17th Infantry as a gun guard. Nothing occurred till the 1st June, when the regiment held a seditious meeting, while on the following day an attempt was made to tamper with some of the 13th Irregulars, who had come with Lieutenant Palliser to escort the spare trea-

* Aitcheson's Treaties, Vol. II, p. 61.

sure of Gorakhpur and Azamgarh into Benares. On June 3rd a company of the 17th Infantry and some eighty troopers of the 12th and 13th Irregulars reached Azamgarh from Gorakhpur with five lakhs of rupees in their charge. This was the signal for considerable disturbance among the men of the 17th Infantry stationed at Azamgarh, who rose in a body and openly declared that the treasure should never leave the station. Nothing however came of their declarations, for by mingled promises and threats the same guard that had escorted the treasure to Azamgarh was induced to proceed with it and two lakhs from Azamgarh in addition the same night to Benares ; and the excitement died down for the time. Only three hours after the treasure had left however, a musket shot pealed out in the silence of the descending night about 8 P.M., and the sepoys instantly armed themselves, shot down Quarter-master Sergeant Lewis, told their officers to fly to Ghazipur, and hurried down to the city. The magistrate, Mr. Horne, and the joint-magistrate, Mr. Simson, who were in the sepoy lines, seeing that all was lost, galloped back to the civil station, leaving orders with the *kotwal* to do what he could to check the advance of the sepoys through the city. But the *kotwal* could do nothing ; and the jail guard having released all the prisoners at once joined the rebels. Meanwhile the treasury gun guard had mutinied. Lieutenant Hutchinson was shot while trying to harangue his men, and all the other Europeans, both ladies and gentlemen, escaped to the roof of the cutcherry. The sepoys however caring less for murder than for plunder suddenly took the guns and made off towards Benares after the treasure; while the fugitives took advantage of their absence to fly to Ghazipur. They reached Ghazipur in safety about the same time as the mutineers who after capturing the treasure and returning with it to the station, left Azamgarh for Fyzabad.

On June 16th Mr. Dunne, one of the Azamgarh fugitives, resolved to return to the district and rescue those who saved by the sepoys' hasty flight were living under the protection of friendly landholders. He was accompanied by Mr. Venables and some troopers given him by the magistrate of Ghazipur and accomplished his march without opposition, reaching Azamgarh on June 20th.

At Azamgarh he found a small party of the 13th Irregulars, who seem not to have resolved on their line of action, but soon left the place. The fugitive Europeans hastened out of their places of concealment; and the whole party with the exception of Messrs. Venables, Dunne, Legge and Dodsworth, who remained behind, started for Ghazipur on June 20th. Mr. Venables was at once invested by the commissioner with full magisterial powers; and a number of the district officials formed a committee of public safety. No trouble arose in the administration of the eastern parganas; but the Palwar Rajputs of the west had taken advantage of the outbreak at Azamgarh to indulge in every form of plunder, and Mr. Venables soon found that it would be necessary to measure swords with them. On June 26th Muzaffar Jahan seized and proclaimed himself Raja of Mahul, and Lieutenant Havelock who had come from Ghazipur with some men of the 65th Native Infantry and some troopers moved out against the Palwars. Little however was achieved in the course of three days' fighting; and on June 30th a larger force was taken by Mr. Venables to attack Muhabbatpur, a village a few miles out of the city which had been conspicuous for marauding. Practically no resistance was encountered and several noted bad characters were carried off and imprisoned in the *kotwali*. About July 12th Mr. Venables found it necessary to advance with all his force, which now comprised about 300 men of the 65th Native Infantry, and attack the Palwars at Koelsa. His attempt was unsuccessful: his men became disorganised and were driven back and a hasty retreat was beaten to Azamgarh. Emboldened by their success the Palwars now commenced to march on the city themselves; but they moved so slowly that on July 18th, when Mr. Venables went out to meet them, they were still two miles from it. The larger portion of the 65th Regiment had meanwhile returned to Ghazipur, but on the 18th Mr. Venables was reinforced by the civil authorities who returned from Ghazipur with ten officers marching to join the Gurkha force at Gorakhpur, 25 troopers of the 12th Irregulars, and a body of 350 half-disciplined men raised by Captain Catania. Leaving Mr. Simson, the joint magistrate, with Captain Catania's levies to protect the court-house and breastworks which he had thrown up to command

the roads leading to the city, and having posted some 800 matchlockmen under native officers in different parts of the town to protect it, Mr. Venables advanced to meet the Palwars. He found the enemy strongly posted in groves, their front protected by high crops. This prevented the cavalry from operating against them with success, and, after an hour's fusilade on both sides, the enemy made a flanking movement on the right which compelled Mr. Venables to retreat. This retreat, owing to the indisciplined nature of the troops under Mr. Venables' command, soon became a rout, and had the enemy pushed their success to the utmost the consequences would have been most serious. As it was a running fight ensued all through the city in which the matchlockmen played a conspicuous part, and Mr. Venables' force reached the court-house without loss. The enemy suffered severely in the street fighting; but in spite of their losses pressed on the retreating force. It was only after three hours hard fighting behind the breastworks and a brilliant charge by the cavalry that the enemy thought of retiring.

Second evacuation of Azamgarh.

The intentions of the enemy however were wholly unknown to the besieged: the position of the court-house was extremely insecure, and the question of a retreat to Ghazipur was discussed in a council of war. It was agreed ultimately that, until morning dawned, no definite decision could be taken; and morning brought with it the welcome news that the rebels were far away. This news was exceedingly opportune. The besieged force had no provisions; the whole country was up; and the sepoys, who had shewn no stomach for the fight, positively declared that they would no longer fight without being fed. And indeed had the Palwars held their ground, it would have been difficult for Mr. Venables to have retreated at all. The flight of the enemy however and the distribution of some opportunely discovered grain raised the spirits of the whole force. During the next ten days little was done. The eastern portion of the district obeyed the orders issued, passively as before; and the western portion remained in open rebellion. Two regiments of Gurkhas, who were to be sent to Azamgarh, were expected to reach Gorakhpur on July 27th, and all parties were content to wait and see what happened. On the

28th July however two messengers arrived in hot haste with the news that the 12th Irregulars had mutinied at Sigauli in the Champaran district. Now the troopers at Azamgarh belonged to this regiment; and as there could be no doubt that they would follow the example of their fellows, it was decided to retire on Ghazipur with all speed. The next morning a letter also arrived bringing intelligence of the mutiny at Dinapur ; an immediate departure was ordered and the district was formally and completely entrusted to the Raja of Azamgarh. But the news that the city was again to be left to the mercy of any villains who might choose to plunder it caused the deepest consternation among the inhabitants, and when the march began the troops were accompained by a long line of carts in which the flying citizens were carrying away their most valued possessions. Arrived at Chiriakot where they intended to halt a while, the Europeans with the sepoys entered the *pukka sarai*, barred the gate, and placed the loaded gun in front, leaving the *sowars* outside. They resumed their march at 1 P.M. when they found but thirty of the *sowars* present, the rest having deserted. After a short distance had been accomplished, the party was met by a postman from Ghazipur, bringing a large number of letters for the sepoys and others. These letters were inconsiderately distributed to the men at once; and it was soon perceived that the distribution had been a grave mistake. It had long been known that the regiment to which the sepoys of Mr. Venables' party belonged had determined to be guided by the events at Dinapur; but up to this moment no trustworthy information had been forthcoming and their demeanour had been as respectful as of old. The letters now received brought them the news of the mutiny at Dinapur, and their manner instantly changed; they openly boasted that they would mutiny as soon as they reached Ghazipur. The march however was accomplished without further trouble, and at headquarters better counsels prevailed.

Re-occupation of Azamgarh.

Hardly had the troops left the station than their lines were plundered, and confusion prevailed through the city. The most prominent members of the committee of public safety—the *nazir* and *sarishtadar*—left for Ghazipur soon after the European officers

quitted Azamgarh, and all the police, save those at Muhammadabad, left their posts. The Sigauli mutineers made a hurried march through the district, and as soon as they left it the Palwars under one Pirthipal Singh, came down in force to the city. Here they levied a contribution of Rs. 10,000 and remained from the 9th until the 25th August, when the arrival of the Gurkha force under Colonel Wroughton caused them to seek safety in flight. The Gurkhas marched into the city on August 26th and occupied it ; and on September 3rd the judge and magistrate together with Messrs. Venables and Legge came to Azamgarh. The southern and eastern portions of the district now speedily settled down, and the Gurkhas left Azamgarh for Jaunpur on September 7th ; but in the northern and western subdivisions anarchy was still the order of the day and demanded active measures to suppress it. Muzaffar Khan, though quiet, was still in possession of Mahul ; but the Palwars of Atraulia had no intention of patiently awaiting attack and after hovering in the neighbourhood of Azamgarh for some days their leader Beni Madho announced his encampment with a large force at Mundari, only nine miles from the city, on September 15th by firing a salute. This insolence did not long go unpunished; for on September 18th a force of 1,200 Gurkhas under Captain Boileau was despatched from Jaunpur and on September 20th Mr. Venables with the aid of these troops surprised and routed the rebels, killing about three hundred of them and capturing three guns. Beni Madho took refuge in his fort at Atraulia ; but hearing a few days later that the Gurkhas were again advancing fled precipitately to Oudh, leaving his stronghold to be occupied by the native officials whom he had taken there before as prisoners. On September 27th Wroughton himself proceeded with a strong force to Mubarakpur, the stronghold of Iradat Jahan, who had proclaimed himself *naib nazim* of Jaunpur, took him prisoner and hanged him after trial. Mr. Bird, joint magistrate of Gorakhpur, next led a force towards Mahul, burned the forts of Shamsabad and Baramadpur, the strongholds of Muzaffar Khan and Pirthipal Singh respectively on his way, and finding Mahul itself evacuated reinstated the police. This expedition restored, nominally a

least, the sovereignty of the British Government over the whole district.

It was not long however before the sovereignty was disturbed. The Palwars were only half subdued. Mr. Pollock, who was then officiating as magistrate, made overtures to them to induce them to settle down; and while they were still hesitating as to what course of action they should pursue, the district was threatened by a serious invasion from the north. In October the Gorakhpur rebels collected in great force at Barhaj near the Ghagra, and news was brought that they were contemplating a descent on Azamgarh. Mr. Pollock hurried northwards with all his forces, attacked them, drove them from a strong position on the northern bank of the Ghagra and even succeeded in cutting off the flotilla of boats that had been collected by them for the passage of the river. This action secured the district from all immediate danger in this quarter and Mr. Pollock satisfied with his success returned to Azamgarh after charging the leading landholders with the protection of Dohrighat. At Azamgarh Mr. Pollock learned that the hesitation of the Palwars to come in and submit to authority was chiefly caused by a doubt of the reception they would obtain; and he accordingly determined on a tour through their country. Marching with a force sufficient to crush any attempt at resistance he passed through the Rajput country, punishing the rebels on the way and destroying their chief strongholds; and then at Koelsa met the Palwar chiefs in a friendly conference. His policy of conciliation was conspicuously successful, for neither when Azamgarh was again overrun by rebels in November nor when Kunwar Singh besieged Azamgarh in April 1858 did a single Palwar raise a hand to aid them. Only once more during the year 1857 was the district seriously disturbed. Early in November a miscellaneous band of rebels from Oudh collected in great force and occupied the fort of Atraulia. A call for help was immediately sent to Jaunpur, which Colonel Longden had reached only on November 1st, and a strong force was at once despatched to cope with the outbreak. The attack on the rebel stronghold was not delivered until November 9th, when the enemy evacuated the fort, removing their

wounded but leaving behind three guns. Three days were spent in destroying the fortifications of the place, and Colonel Longden returned to Jaunpur. Azamgarh now remained quiet for the rest of the year ; for even the alarm caused by the threatening attitude of the rebels at the end of November did not cause the frontier police to quit their posts and the arrival of Colonel Longden again with a force in the last days of December removed all apprehension of attack from the direction of Oudh.

Kunwar Singh.

For several months things now remained comparatively quiet ; but in March 1858 the conditions of affairs underwent a complete change. The bulk of the British forces was then concentrated at Lucknow and the eastern districts were almost denuded of troops. The opportunity was at once seized by Kunwar Singh, who since his expulsion from Jagdispur by Vincent Eyre had hung about the districts of western Bihar with a small force, to make a diversion in eastern Oudh. Combining with the numberless rebels still at large in that part of the country, he intended to make a dash on Azamgarh and if successful there to avenge the storming of Jagdispur by an assault on Allahabad or Benares. The time was singularly favourable for the attempt. Roecroft, who had been operating in Gorakhpur, took up his position at Amorha in the Gorakhpur (now Basti) district, nine miles east of Fyzabad, on March 4th opposite a rebel force of some 14,000 men, who were entrenched at Belwa. Here he was attacked on March 5th by the rebels whom he signally defeated ; but the enemy's position was too strong to assault and it was not until the 17th April that he was able to again attack them. This body of rebels had, like Kunwar Singh, designs on Azamgarh ; and though their plans had been for the time being baffled by their defeat at Belwa on March 5th, Roecroft's inability to follow up his victory had incited them to pursue their original design by other means. Still holding the camp at Belwa, they detached a considerable force to the south east, and this force during its march attracted to itself many detachments of escaped rebels. With these troops Kunwar Singh succeeded in effecting a junction at Atraulia on the 17th or 18th March.

Siege of Azamgarh

The Azamgarh district was at this time guarded by a small British force consisting of 286 men of the 37th Regiment, sixty men of the 4th Madras Cavalry, and two light guns under the command of Colonel Milman of the 37th. At the time when Kunwar Singh and his allies took up their position at Atraulia, Milman was encamped at Koelsa. On March 21st Milman received intelligence of the proximity of the rebels from Mr. Dacres, magistrate of Azamgarh. He at once broke up his camp, marched all night, and at daybreak on the 22nd came upon the advanced guard of the enemy's force posted in some mango groves outside the fort of Atraulia. These he attacked without allowing them to recover from their surprise and defeated; but having dispersed them he resolved before advancing further to rest his troops. He accordingly halted in the mango groves whence he had expelled the rebels and his men prepared their breakfast; but while they were still making their preparations, the main body of the enemy advanced to the attack. Milman, nothing daunted, galloped forward with his skirmishes as soon as he received the news that the enemy were at hand; but it was only to find them strongly posted in overwhelming strength in fields of sugarcane and topes of trees. Thinking that their progress might be checked by a daring attack, he ordered his main body to advance, but it was hopelessly outflanked by the superior numbers of the enemy and was slowly forced back to Koelsa. Meanwhile rumours of the enemy's advance had reached the camp at Koelsa; a panic had seized the camp followers, most of whom had decamped with their bullocks, and there was no food to be found there. Milman accordingly continued his retreat to Azamgarh, which he reached the same day, and threw up hasty entrenchments round the jail to defend himself, till succour should arrive from Benares, Allahabad or Lucknow. Two days later the rebels occupied the town and surrounded the jail. Kunwar Singh however did not care to risk an assault, and, having invested the place he trusted to the effects of famine and an unremitting fire to reduce it.

The ma[rch] of Lord Kerr.

A despatch sent to Benares reached that station on March 24th. Forty-six men of the Madras Rifles were instantly des-

patched to Azamgarh. On the following day 150 men of the 37th Regiment from Ghazipur and two days later 130 men of the same regiment reached Azamgarh and effected a junction with Milman's force inside the entrenchments before it had been attacked by the rebels. Colonel Dawes of the 37th then assumed command of the whole force. On the 27th March he attempted a sortie with 200 Europeans, two guns, and the sixty Madras troopers; though successful at first, he was repulsed with the loss of one officer and eleven men killed and wounded. The express despatched to Allahabad reached that place on the 27th, when Lord Canning was there. The news of Milman's defeat caused grave anxiety, as the consequences with a man of the stamp of Kunwar Singh acting on the offensive were likely to be most serious. Just then the headquarters and right wing of the 13th Light Infantry happened to be at Allahabad under the command of Colonel Lord Mark Kerr, an officer of great courage and ability who had seen service in the Crimea. Lord Canning sent for Lord Mark and explained to him the position of affairs. That same evening Lord Mark set off for Benares with the wing of his regiment, 391 strong. He reached Benares on March 31st, picked up there a troop, 55 men and two officers, of the Queen's Bays, 17 gunners and one officer with two 6-pounder guns and two $5\frac{1}{2}$ inch mortars, and started for Azamgarh on April 2nd. Marching with all speed Lord Mark Kerr reached Sarsena, eight miles from Azamgarh, on the evening of April 5th, and halted. On the morning of the 6th he set out again, but after a march of two hours he discovered that crowds of armed men were lying in ambush in a number of banked ditches on either side of the road, waiting to intercept him. He halted and waited for his train of camels and carts to come up, and as soon as they arrived he despatched a company of the 13th to clear the ditches. This was successfully carried out; but no sooner had it been done than a heavy fire was opened from a number of buildings and mango groves which constituted the enemy's right. The guns were brought up and shrapnel was thrown among the enemy, but the latter were so numerous that they were able to spread out all round the British forces: they even succeeded in approaching

close enough to the baggage train to set fire to some of the carts. The situation now became very critical. The fight had lasted an hour, no impression had been made on the fighting line of the enemy, and their reserves could be seen forming up to advance. The 6-pounder guns meanwhile had been shelling the main building upon the enemy's right, but they made little effect on the walls, and it was a long time before a breach was effected. A storming party of some 30 or 40 men advanced to this only to find that it was not quite practicable; and even after they had enlarged it, they discovered that there was an inner wall as yet untouched. Fire was then set to the roof and wooden portions of the building, which forced the enemy to evacuate it; and as they retreated their discomfiture was completed by a charge of the Bays. While however the enemy had been thus forced from their position in front, they had managed to complete the circle and attack Lord Mark's rear. The way to Azamgarh lay open, but the difficulty remained how to beat off the enemy at the back. Ultimately Lord Mark decided to leave Major Tyler of the 13th to defend the baggage, and push on himself to Azamgarh and return with any loyal sepoys he might find there to rescue his carts, which had been abandoned by their drivers. He accordingly moved forward along the Azamgarh road, and this movement produced even a greater effect than he had anticipated. The enemy's left wing, frightened by his forward movement, beat a hasty retreat; the cart drivers reappeared from wherever they had hidden themselves; and very soon after Major Tyler found himself able to follow his chief. The stone bridge across the river near the town was reached at 11 o'clock and was found to have been rendered impassable by the rebels, who, though they did not attempt to hold it, maintained a heavy fire upon it. It was repaired under fire; and as soon as it had been rendered serviceable, Lord Mark sent for the Madras Rifles from the beleaguered garrison and despatched them to aid in escorting the carts and elephants. The united forces of Colonel Dawes and Lord Mark Kerr now took up their position within the entrenchments.

The express despatched by Milman to Lucknow reached Sir Colin Campbell on March 28th. No time was lost in sending a — The relief.

force to his relief, and on the 29th Sir E. Lugard was despatched with a brigade of infantry, 700 Sikh sabres and 18 pieces of artillery, along the direct road to Azamgarh, taking Atraulia *en route*. Pushing on as rapidly as possible, Lugard reached Sultanpur on April 5th, intending to cross the Gumti there and march straight to Azamgarh. But when he arrived there he found that the bridge had been destroyed and that there were no boats; he accordingly resolved to march first to Jaunpur, which was being threatened by a rebel force under Ghulam Husain. He fought a smart action with this force at Tigra, crossed the river and marched the next day to Didarganj, detaching three companies of the 37th Regiment to relieve the Gurkhas at Jaunpur and then pushed on for Azamgarh. Meanwhile Colonel Dawes who commanded at Azamgarh had been restrained from making any offensive movement by the express orders of Sir Colin Campbell; Kunwar Singh still occupied the town, and was the threatening the entrenchment. On the approach of Lugard on April 15th Kunwar Singh drew up his forces along the banks of the river Tons, resolved to dispute its passage ; but he knew very well that his force would be unable to hold it against Lugard and his real plan was that, while the passage of the Tons should be held as long as possible, the main body of his forces should march with all speed to the Ganges, cross it and endeavour to reach their native jungles at Jagdispur. Lugard attacked the rebels with great vigour, but it was not till the enemy had offered a long and stubborn resistance which ensured the safety of their comrades that they fell back. Lugard then crossed the Tons and occupied the city. It was in the action at the bridge over the Tons that Mr. Venables received the wound that cost him his life.

Pursuit and death of Kunwar Singh.

A force consisting of half a troop of horse artillery, the military train and two squadrons of the 3rd Sikh Cavalry were at once sent in pursuit of Kunwar Singh; but it was not till they had galloped twelve miles that they came up with the retreating enemy. The latter stubbornly held their own, turned round to face their pursuers, and ultimately conducted their retirement in safety beyond Natthupur, where the British halted and sent back for reinforcements. Brigadier Douglas was sent to their help and reached Natthupur on

April 16th. Kunwar Singh meanwhile halted at Naghai, about fourteen miles from Natthupur, where he was attacked on the 17th by Douglas and forced to fall back slowly. The pursuit was taken up again the following day as far as Nagra 18 miles distant, but no general action took place. Kunwar Singh then marched to Sikandarpur, crossed the Ghagra by a ford and pushed on to Manohar in Ghazipur, where Douglas defeated him with severe loss. Next, outwitting Colonel Cumberlege who was waiting to pounce on him at Ballia, Kunwar Singh effected his passage of the Ganges at Sheopur before the pursuing British force appeared on the scene and made his way to Jagdispur. But the scene of operations had now been far removed from the district of Azamgarh. It only remains to say that either in the action at Manohar or during the crossing of the Ganges, when the gunboat *Megna* appeared on the scene, Kunwar Singh received a wound from the shock of which he soon after died.

The restoration of order.

Little remains to be told concerning the restoration of order in the district. For some time it remained much disturbed. It was seriously threatened from time to time by Oudh rebels ; it was continually traversed by parties of sepoys flying from Oudh to their other rallying points in Shahabad ; and on the north it was flanked by Gorakhpur which at the time had been hardly at all subdued. On two occasions the rebel Pargan Singh successfully attacked the *thana* at Maharajganj; and it was only after a hard fight that he was compelled to retire from before the tahsil at Koelsa. Matters became even worse a little later when the sepoys, driven from their refuge in the jungles of Jagdispur, were flying back to their old haunts in Oudh. Maharajganj was once more plundered, and the tahsili at Koelsa was again attacked, while a *thanadar* was murdered at Bharauli. Except however for the damage and disturbance caused by these flying bands of rebels, Azamgarh remained tolerably quiet, while the state of affairs was very much worse in Ghazipur and Ballia. A rebel force besieged a small party which had been left at Bairia in the latter district ; and as soon as a body of Sikhs who had been stationed at Nagra advanced to its relief, Pargan Singh, who had been hovering about on the north bank of the Ghagra, marched into the district, and the tahsil at Koelsa had to be again

abandoned. A week later a party of these rebels marched to Nag and threatened the peace of Ghazipur; but finding themselves powerless doubled back to Ghosi and thence fled to Gorakhpur. From this time the district was not troubled. The northern frontier, though constantly threatened, was never actually crossed and the advance of Colonel Kelly in the middle of October 1858 relieved the district even from the apprehension of danger.

Mutiny rewards.

As in many districts so in Azamgarh did the great rebellion bring to light several instances of loyalty. First and foremost came Ali Bakhsh Khan and Munshi Safdar Husain Khan, the former the *nazir* and the latter *sarishtadar* of the magistrate's court, who assisted the Europeans in escaping from Azamgarh, encouraged the other officials to remain at their posts and did their utmost to uphold the authority of the British in the district. Ali Bakhsh Khan was granted the proprietary right in confiscated land paying a revenue of Rs. 3,500 a year, received an honorary *khilat* to the value of Rs. 2,000 together with a *sanad* reciting his eminent services; while Munshi Safdar Husain Khan was rewarded with the grant of confiscated land paying revenue to the extent of Rs. 1,500 and a *khilat* of Rs. 1,000. Next were the tahsildars Maulvi Ali Hasan and Mir Muhammad Taki. The former who was tahsildar of Nagra tahsil received a grant of proprietary right in land paying a demand of Rs. 2,500 and a *khilat* of Rs. 1,500 together with a handsome sword, while Abdul Majid, munsif, who assisted him, received the proprietary right in land yielding Rs. 750 in revenue. Mir Muhammad Taki was *peshkar* of Muhammadabad tahsil and took upon himself the duties of the tahsildar, when that officer quitted his post; he received the proprietary right in confiscated land bearing a *jama* of Rs. 1,000. A similar reward to that of Maulvi Ali Hasan was bestowed on Mir Asghar Ali, tahsildar, who assisted the Europeans in getting conveyances for their escape to Ghazipur and subsequently rendered good service in the field against the Gorakhpur rebels. Smaller rewards were granted to Sheikh Mammu and Babu Nanak Bakhsh who helped the *nazir* and *sarishtadar* in preserving order in Azamgarh, while a *khilat* of Rs. 500 and a *sanad* were conferred on Babu Salamat Shah, son of the Raja of Azamgarh to whom the management of the district was entrusted

fter the officials had left it. The Babus of Sidhari each received silver mounted swords for their help in recovering government and other property. Lastly Kewal Singh of Sagri received the proprietary right in land bearing a demand of Rs. 1,000 for his services in saving the tahsili at Sagri from plunder and for the opposition he offered to Kunwar Singh.

Subsequent history.

From the restoration of order to the present day the peace of the district has been but once broken. In 1893 Azamgarh was troubled by the *gaurakshini* movement, which arose from a widespread conspiracy on the part of certain Hindus to prevent the slaughter of kine by Musalmans. Cow-protection societies flourished in the western districts of Bengal and some years previously to 1893 they became established in the eastern districts of this province, where a vigorous propaganda was carried on. The movement was ostensibly directed towards the improvement and preservation of the breed of cattle, which it was alleged were decreasing in numbers and deteriorating in quality. The preachers sent forth by the societies inculcated the duty of treating cattle with kindness, and of providing an asylum for sick and infirm animals. To this was afterwards added a corollary that no Hindu should sell cattle to persons who were likely to slaughter them, that if a Hindu found himself compelled to sell cattle in a fair he should inform a society that would purchase the animal and place it in an asylum. For the expenses of the societies and for the purchase of cattle voluntary contributions were made by many devout and well-meaning Hindus. At the beginning of 1893 the societies passed out of the form of voluntary associations and assumed the organization of a league. The principles of the organization were laid down at a great meeting at Lar in the Gorakhpur district on March 18th, and in the Azamgarh district the league was definitely organized at Azmatgarh on May 15th. The rules framed at these meetings were that compulsory contributions should be levied from all Hindus under penalty of exclusion from caste. Each household was directed to set apart at each meal one *chutki* (equal in weight and value to one pice) of food stuff for each member of the family. The eating of food without setting apart the *chutki* was declared to be an offence equal to that of eat-

ing cow's flesh ; and agents called *sabhasads* were appointed for the collection of these contributions. Secondly, pounds were established to which cattle found trespassing were to be brought and in which fines were levied for the benefit of the league. But even before the meeting of 15th May cases had occurred which indicated the inevitable tendency of the agitation. In January a herd of cattle had been waylaid and taken away from a butcher near Kopaganj ; and similar cases were reported in April and May from Sonadih and Sikandarpur. Next notices were issued enjoining on Hindus the duty of not selling cattle to Musalmans ; and on May 19th a large meeting was held at Jahanaganj at which a demand was made that Musalmans should sacrifice no cattle at the festival of the *Bakr Id*, and it was threatened that if any attempt was made to sacrifice at the *Id* the Hindus would rescue the cattle. The disturbances culminated at Mau on June 25th. On that day a mob of about 2,000 men from Ballia and Ghazipur advanced to attack the town of Mau in pursuance of their intention to prevent any sacrifice ; but they were dispersed after they had come to blows with the Musalman residents of Mau by Mr. Garstin, the superintendent of police, who was compelled to fire with buckshot on them. This was the most serious affray that occurred. A number of riots took place at various places in the district ; but a reconciliation was brought about between the two classes of the population by means of conciliation committees. No actual military operations proved necessary, but to owing the alarm spread abroad among the people a company of native infantry and a troop of cavalry were sent to restore confidence. The worst affected portion of the district was the tahsil of Muhammadabad, but tahsils Sagri and Ghosi and a portion of Nizamabad were implicated in the movement and, as a punishment for the disturbances, a large force of punitive police was quartered in *tappas* Athaisi, Phariha and Harbanspur of Nizamabad, in pargana Bela-Daulatabad of Deogaon, and in all *tappas* of the Muhammadabad, Sagri and Ghosi tahsils. Soon afterwards matters settled down quietly once more.

No other events worthy of record have taken place in the district except administrative or fiscal changes and these having been already set forth in the preceding chapters.

GAZETTEER

OF

AZAMGARH.

DIRECTORY.

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DIRECTORY.

AHRAULA, *Pargana* ATRAULIA, *Tahsil* MAHUL.

Ahraula is a small village lying in the south of pargana Atraulia, close to the Fyzabad border, in 26° 10′ N. and 82° 56′ E. It is intrinsically a place of no importance, but derives such importance as it has from the fact that it is the headquarters of the tahsil of Mahul which is also known as Ahraula. The population in 1901 only numbered 118 souls, all except one of whom were Hindus, and has remained practically stationary during the last twenty years preceding the census of 1901. The predominant Hindu caste is that of Palwar Rajputs. Besides the tahsil, Ahraula contains a police station, post-office, upper primary school and cattle-pound. Market is held in the place every Monday and Friday, and in *Kuar* (September-October) the Ram Lila fair is celebrated and attended by a large number of people. The place is 21 miles distant from Azamgarh and is connected with Mahul, Phulpur, Atraulia, Koelsa and Captainganj by unmetalled roads.

AHRAULA *Tahsil, vide* MAHUL.

ATRAITH, *Pargana* ATRAULIA, *Tahsil* MAHUL.

This village lies in 26° 17′ N. and 83° 4′ E., in the extreme north of the pargana close to the Chhoti Sarju. The village is a large one and in 1901 had a population of 2,051 persons, of whom 1,824 were Hindus, 200 Muhammadans and 27 of other religions. Kurmis were the numerically strongest Hindu caste. It contains a primary school, and market is held twice a week on Tuesdays and Saturdays ; but otherwise it is a place of little importance. It is not connected by road with any place, but lies some two miles off the high-road from Azamgarh to Fyzabad at a distance of 30 miles from Azamgarh and 14 miles from the tahsil headquarters at Ahraula. The Village Sanitation Act (U. P. Act II of 1892) is in force.

ATRAULIA, *Pargana* ATRAULIA, *Tahsil* MAHUL.

Atraulia is situated in the extreme north-western corner of the district, in 26° 20′ N. and 82° 59′ E., on the main road from Azamgarh to Fyzabad. It is distant 26 miles from Azamgarh

and 11 miles from Ahraula with which it is connected by another unmetalled road. It is the chief town of the pargana to which it gives its name and was originally settled by one Bujhawan Singh, a Palwar Rajput of the village of Nariaon in this pargana, who built the mud fort to the north of the town. Sometime before the Mutiny the proprietary rights in the village were purchased by Raja Jai Lal Kunbi who held a high position at the court at Lucknow, and a new fort was built by him. This fort was held at the time of the Mutiny by his brother Beni Madho who turned a rebel. The property was then confiscated. The fort was dismantled in November 1857 by Colonel Longden's column, but it was all through the period of the disturbances a rallying place for the Oudh rebels ; and it was in its neighbourhood that Colonel Milman suffered a defeat at the hands of Kunwar Singh.

At the present day Atraulia contains a well-attended primary school, police station, post-office and cattle-pound ; while market is held every Monday and Thursday. It is a large town, though the population has steadily decreased since 1881 when it numbered 3,105 souls. At the last enumeration in 1901 there were 2,530 inhabitants, comprising 2,005 Hindus and 525 Muhammadans, the numerically strongest Hindu caste being that of Kandus. The town has been administered under Act XX of 1856 since the year 1860. The income which is raised by the usual method of assessment under the Act amounts on an average to Rs. 800 yearly and is expended in the maintenance of a small conservancy staff of four sweepers and two *bhishtis*, a police force of four constables of all grades and in simple works of improvement. The Village Sanitation Act (U. P. Act II of 1892) is in force in the town.

ATRAULIA *Pargana, Tahsil* MAHUL.

Atraulia is the north-western pargana of the district, being bounded on the west and north-east by parganas Surhurpur and Birhar of the Fyzabad district, and on the south-east by pargana Kauria of Azamgarh. For a short distance on the south-west the Tons river forms the boundary line with Fyzabad, but only a few villages find their drainage into that river. The

greater part of the pargana is drained by the Chhoti Sarju which, rising a short way beyond the boundary in the Fyzabad district, crosses the centre of the pargana and ultimately falls into the Ghagra. In the extreme north, a corner of the pargana which projects into Fyzabad is drained by a small stream known as the Pikiya *nala* which also joins the Ghagra. The prevailing soil of Atraulia is a fertile sandy loam, locally known as *balsundar*, which is found in many other parts of the district. There are some villages in which the soil is of a more clayey nature ; but they are few in number and they do not anywhere form a defined tract of any extent. Classified according to the distinctions recognised at the settlement, three-quarters of the cultivated area is *rabi* or *harjins* land, while one-quarter is rice land.

The pargana has a total area of 74,285 acres or 117 square miles. Of this 10,234 acres or 13·68 per cent. are classed as barren, including the area covered with water or sites, roads, buildings and the like, and 15,987 acres or 21·33 per cent. are recorded as culturable waste, 2,492 acres of the total being covered by groves. In 1903, the year of verification of the records, the cultivated area amounted to 48,603 acres or 64·96 per cent. of entire pargana. The system of agriculture calls for no special remarks. The irrigated area is large, amounting to over 65 per cent. of that cultivated, roughly two-thirds being served by wells and nearly all the remainder by tanks or *jhils*. Of the total cropped area 61·28 per cent. is devoted to *kharif* and 57·54 per cent. to *rabi* crops; while 9,324 acres or 19·18 per cent. of the net cultivation is twice-cropped in the year. The *zaid* harvest is utterly insignificant in area, not exceeding 20 acres. The chief crops grown are rice, sugar-cane and *arhar* in the *kharif*, and barley, either alone or in combination with other crops, wheat in combination, and gram intermixed with peas, in the *rabi*. Smaller areas are devoted to indigo, pulses, maize, poppy and linseed. It may be noted that there is a considerable area of land in the pargana which grows rice only. It is locally known as *farda* and is of very inferior quality.

There are 370 villages in the pargana, which at the time of the settlement in 1903 were divided into 687 *mahals*, counting a

mahal once for each village into which it extends. Of the latter 148 were held in single *zamindari*, 355 in joint *zamindari*, 71 in perfect *pattidari* and 159 in imperfect *pattidari* tenure of the *khuntaiti* form, while four were held in imperfect *pattidari bighadam*. Atraulia with Kauria is known locally as the *Palwari* or country of the Palwar Rajputs, so it is natural to find that Rajputs own as much as 53·28 per cent. of the pargana. Next to them come Brahmans with 23·08 per cent., Banias and Khattris 12·13 per cent., and Kayasths 6·58 per cent, while 2·02 per cent. belongs to Musalmans. As in other parganas most of the land is in the hands of proprietary communities ; and the only large properties belong to the Raja of Jaunpur, Durga Prasad Khattri of Gorakhpur, Harbans Deo Narayan Singh and Bakhtu Ram Upadhya. Proprietors as such cultivate 31·38 per cent. of the holdings area, occupancy tenants 57·55 per cent. and tenants-at-will nearly 9 per cent. The chief cultivating castes are Rajputs, Brahmans, Ahirs, Kurmis and Koeris. A noticeable feature of the pargana is the large proportion of the land held by high caste tenants; this amounts to over 30 per cent. of the holdings area. These high caste tenants pay a rate of Rs. 3·73 per acre for the land which they hold in occupancy right and Rs. 4·39 per acre for that which they hold as tenants-at-will ; while low caste occupancy tenants pay a rate of Rs. 5·41 and low caste non-occupancy tenants a rate of Rs. 5·24 per acre. The population of the pargana at the census of 1872 numbered 81,261 persons, with a density of 695 persons per square mile, and this rose to 96,026 at the following census. In 1891 the inhabitants amounted to no less than 102,885 souls, the density being 879 to the square mile ; but at the most recent enumeration in 1901 there were 97,909 inhabitants and the density was 837 persons to the square mile. Of this number 50,327 were females; and classified according to religion there were 90,991 Hindus, 6,892 Musalmans and 26 of other religions. The population is practically wholly agricultural in character. The only town in the pargana is Atraulia which is administered under Act XX of 1856 and has a population of 2,530 souls. The next largest village is Lohra with inhabitants to the number of 2,071. Ahraula, the tahsil headquarters, is situated in the south of the pargana, but

the village of that name contains only a few houses and a small bazar. The communications of the pargana are equal to its needs. It is crossed in a north-westerly direction by the Azamgarh-Fyzabad road, which was once metalled, but has for many years been reduced to the status of a second class road. A fine new bridge over the Chhoti Sarju was completed in 1903 on this road to replace one which was carried away in 1898. Two unmetalled roads run from Ahraula, one in a north-westerly and the other in a north-easterly direction, to meet the Azamgarh-Fyzabad road and these complete the communications of the pargana. The recently completed extension of the Bengal and North-Western Railway runs a few miles to the south of the pargana, and as the Tons river is bridged at Ahraula the trade of the pargana has a convenient outlet on the south.

AZAMGARH, *Pargana* AND *Tahsil* NIZAMABAD.

The town of Azamgarh is the chief town and headquarters of the district and lies in 26° 51′ N. latitude and 83° 12′ E. longitude. There is a station of the same name on a branch of the Bengal and North-Western Railway, and the town lies on the provincial road which leads from Allahabad through Jaunpur to Gorakhpur *viâ* Dohrighat. Metalled roads lead south-eastwards to Ghazipur and Mau and westwards to Shahganj, while unmetalled roads radiate in all directions to outlying places in the district. The town and civil station are bounded on three sides by the serpentine windings of the Tons river, the town lying to the south of the civil station within the loop formed by the river. The average width of the river from bank to bank is about 230 feet and the banks are for the most part steep, confining the stream between them. But in the rains large volumes of water are brought down the channel, and from time to time floods occur which do considerable damage in the town. The best known floods which have occurred since the British occupation took place in 1838, 1871 and 1894. That of 1871 was larger than that in 1838, the water rising two and a half feet higher, and the loss caused by it was estimated at over Rs. 40,000 ; while the flood of 1894 occurred very suddenly in the first week of October, the highest level falling short

of its predecessor by only a foot. On this occasion two lives were lost by drowning and damage was caused to the extent of Rs. 50,000. More recently still a flood occurred in 1903, which was responsible for a considerable amount of loss to property; and the town has now been protected by large embankments both on the east and west.

The town is situated in *mauzas* Maria, Ailwal, Siuli, Arazi Baghat, Hirapatti and Kondar Azmatpur; and before it was founded part of the site was occupied by the hamlets of Ailwal and Phulwaria. The former is a *muhalla* of the present town while the latter was destroyed and the modern village of Siuli built on its ruins. Azamgarh was founded about the year 1665 A. D. by Azam Khan, of whom some account has been given in Chapter V, on land which was either purchased or wrested from the Bisen Rajputs of Ailwal. The family of which Azam Khan was then the head, under the title of Raja, took up its residence in the place; and after they were expelled by the Nawab Wazir of Oudh, Azamgarh became the headquarters of the *chakladars* or *amils* who were appointed by the Oudh court to manage the Azamgarh parganas. Its subsequent history is uneventful except during the Mutiny, when it was occupied for a time first by the Palwar Rajputs and then by Kunwar Singh, from the latter of whom it was rescued by Lord Mark Kerr and Sir E. Lugard.

There are thirty-two *muhallas* in the town, which for municipal purposes are now distributed over four wards. The Ailwal ward comprises the *muhallas* of *Ailwal*, *Mandya*, *Matbarganj*, *Farrash tola*, *Kalinganj* or Colinganj, founded by a former collector and named after his son, *Raidopur*, from Raido Singh, a Bisen Rajput, *Pura Raja Ram*, *Chak Sheoram*, and *Chak Tandi Rai*; while in the Kot ward are included the *muhallas Kot*, *Sita Ram*, named after Lala Sita Ram, an officer of the Oudh government, *Baz Bahadur*, from one of the Sidhari family, *Jalandhri*, from the Jalandhri Pathans in the service of one of the Rajas, *Dharmu ka nala*, and *Chakla*. The Asafganj ward comprises the *muhallas* of *Asafganj*, built by a *chakladar* named Asaf, *Bazar* Pande, which was constructed by a well-known tahsildar called Jaigopal Pande, *Paharpur*, from Pahar Khan, an Afghan

general once in the employ of the local Rajas, *Arazi Baghat*, *McChleryganj* named after a former collector, and *Pura Jodhi.* Lastly there is the Khattri Tola ward which includes the *Khattri tola*, *Kurmi tola*, *Sada basti*, *Guru tola*, *Anant Ram ka pura*, *Badarka* (deriving its name from the custom house existing here in the time of the Oudh rule), *Patra Kohna*, *Bundigai tola*, *Dalsinghar* and *Kondar Azmatpur*. The principal streets in the city are the Jaunpur and Ghazipur metalled roads which run in nearly parallel lines from south to north of the city and converge in *muhalla* McChleryganj in the north-east extremity. The only antiquities in the town are a dilapidated post dating from the time of Azam Khan, and a temple to Gauri Shankar in *muhalla* Asafganj, said to have been built about 1760. The public buildings of Azamgarh comprise the dispensary, Town Hall, Church Mission School, National High School and Church. The Government distillery which has now been closed was a mud wall enclosure on the Fyzabad road to the north of the city in *muhalla* Arazi Baghat. There is only one public *sarai* called Fateh Khan Sarai and originally built by Mr. Thomason, the first collector of Azamgarh after it was formed into a separate district. The Town Hall stands in the south of the town, between the district offices and the jail. It was erected between the year 1895 and 1897 at a cost of Rs. 13,752. Beyond it lies the civil station with the court houses of the collector and the judge, the church, the police lines and the tahsil. The embankment which protect the city from the flooding of the Tons river was constructed between the years 1896 and 1898 at a cost of Rs. 12,699.

Regarded provincially, Azamgarh is a town of small importance. Whatever distinction it has is derived from its being the largest town and market in the district, a municipality and the seat of the civil authorities. Its population has increased, but the place probably differs little in other respects from what it was in the time of the Rajas and *chakladars*. It is not specially famous for any manufacture and its trade, if steady, is not very extensive. The chief imports into the place consist of food grains, unrefined sugar, *ghi*, animals for slaughter, oil, fuel, metals,

building materials and cloth; while the only exports are refined sugar and manufactured cloth. The population was returned at 10,445 persons in 1853 and at 14,543 persons in 1865. Between 1872 and 1891 the number of the inhabitants rose steadily from 15,770 to 19,442 ; but at the last enumeration in 1901 the population of the municipality was found to have fallen to 18,835. Classified according to religion there were 11,782 Hindus, 6,847 Musalmans, 100 Christians, 72 Sikhs, 27 Aryas and seven Jains. The inhabitants are composed of the miscellaneous classes common in all small towns which have no special industry, namely, petty traders and brokers, shopkeepers, artizans, weavers and agriculturists. Azamgarh was first constituted a municipality in 1870 under Act VI of 1868. The municipal board as now constituted under U. P. Act I of 1900 consists of 12 members, nine of whom are elected and three are appointed. The municipality enjoys an annual income which averages some Rs. 23,000 and is derived for the most part from octroi dues levied on articles imported for consumption within the town. This income is expended in conservancy, public instruction, contributions to hospitals and dispensaries and in similar ways. Details of both income and expenditure are shewn in the appendix.*

AZMATGARH, *Pargana* AND *Tahsil* SAGRI.

The large village of Azmatgarh lies in latitude 26° 9′ N. and 83° 19′ E., one and a half miles from the tahsil headquarters at Jianpur and the metalled provincial road from Azamgarh to Dohrighat. The village is situated close to the Silauna Tal, and a metalled road connects it with Jianpur on the west, and unmetalled roads Muhammadabad on the south and Imla Khas on the east, near which a junction is effected with the Ghazipur-Dohrighat metalled road and the branch line of rail from Mau junction to Dohrighat. Azamtgarh is the largest village in the pargana of Sagri and was once the headquarters of the Sagri tahsil. In 1881 it had a population of 3,361 souls, and in 1891 this number had risen to 3,455. At the last enumeration in 1901, however, the number of the inhabitants was found to have fallen to 2,646, of whom

*Appendix, table XVI.

2,088 were Hindus and 549 were Musalmans, nine persons being of other religions. The village takes its name from Azmat, the brother of Azam who founded Azamgarh, and was founded about the same time as that town. Some account has already been given of this personage in the historical notice of the district, and the ruins of the fort he built at Azmatgarh are the chief object of interest in the place. At the present day the village is somewhat overshadowed by its near neighbour Jianpur, where the tahsil headquarters are now situated ; the only public building it contains is an upper primary school. Market is held on Mondays and Thursdays in each week, and a large fair is annually celebrated on the tenth day of the light half of *Kuar*. The place is the residence of an old-established firm of bankers, now represented by Lalas Harakh Chand and Moti Chand. This firm has a large business in Calcutta and owns much land both in Azamgarh and other districts. To them the village owes the large tank to the north of the site.

BAHROZPUR, *Pargana* AND *Tahsil* MUHAMMADABAD.

This village lies in latitude 26° 2′ N. and 83° 11′ E., only three miles south-east of Azamgarh, on the western boundary of the pargana. In 1901 it had a population of 783 persons, all of whom but nine were Hindus. The place is intrinsically one of no importance, it contains neither school, post-office nor pound, and is only interesting as being one of the earliest Musalman settlements in the district, the reputed founder being Malik Bahroz. The place gives its name to a *tappa* or subdivision of the pargana.

BANKAT, *Pargana* AND *Tahsil* SAGRI.

Bankat is a small village lying on the metalled road from Azamgarh to Dohrighat in 26° 7′ N. and 83° 12′ E., at a distance of seven miles from the civil station of Azamgarh. In 1901 it contained a population of 871 persons 434 being Hindus and 437 being Musalmans. The place has an upper primary school, and branch post-office, but derives its chief importance from the fact that it is the distributing centre for nearly all

the cotton imported from the western districts. The trade in this article became important at Bankat about 1880, and flourished till the competition of the Cawnpore factories caused a decline in the hand loom industry of Azamgarh. Market is held every Tuesdays and Fridays and a well-attended fair is celebrated on the tenth of the light half of *Kuar*.

BARAGAON, *Pargana* AND *Tahsil* GHOSI.

This large village lies only one and a half miles north of Ghosi, in 26° 7′ N. and 80°′30′ E., on the metalled road from Ghazipur to Dohrighat. Only half a mile to the south lies the Ghosi railway station on the branch line of rail between Mau junction and Dohrighat, where unmetalled roads lead off to Natthupur and Chak Mau. In 1881 the place had a population of 2,434 persons, and by 1891 the number had risen to 2,681; but at the last enumeration in 1901 there were 2,507 inhabitants, of whom 1,347 were Hindus and 1,160 were Musalmans, Julahas being the predominant caste. The village contains a lower primary school and a flourishing bazar, market days being Mondays and Fridays. The Village Sanitation Act (U. P. Act II of 1892) is in force in the place.

BARAHTIR JAGDISPUR, *Pargana* Chiriakot, *Tahsil* Muhammadabad, *vide* JAHANAGANJ.

BARDAH, *Pargana* AND *Tahsil* DEOGAON.

The village of Bardah lies 28 miles south-west of Azamgarh on the metalled road from Jaunpur to Azamgarh in latitude 25° 48′ N. and 82° 49′ E., in the south-western corner of Deogaon tahsil. At Bardah an unmetalled road takes off the main road, and joins the unmetalled road from Jaunpur to Phulpur; while another road branches off from this two miles out of Bardah and ultimately joins the Jaunpur-Phulpur road at Belwana in pargana Mahul on the way to Didarganj. The place is not one of large population or great importance. It has no school, but contains a police station, pound and post-office. In 1901 the population numbered 945 persons, of whom 869 were Hindus and 76 were Musalmans.

BELA-DAULATABAD *Pargana*, *Tahsil* DEOGAON.

The pargana of Bela-Daulatabad consists of two tappas, Bela and Daulatabad. These up to the year 1874 were included in the pargana of Nizamabad, but in that year they were formed into a separate pargana and were transferred to tahsil Deogaon, of which they have since formed part. The pargana, as now constituted, is bounded on the west by pargana Mahul, on the north by pargana Nizamabad, and on the east and south by parganas Belhabans and Deogaon of tahsil Deogaon. The total area as recorded at the survey of 1901 was 81,463 acres or 127 square miles.

The natural features of the tract display no marked variations. As a whole it is a low lying clay tract with a gentle slope from west to east. It is drained for the most part by the Besu river which, after rising in the Jaunpur district and passing through the south of pargana Mahul, enters Bela-Daulatabad and flows along the whole length of its southern border. The only other stream in it is the Mangai; this, after draining the south of Nizamabad, crosses the north-east corner of this pargana. As might be expected from its position, the country resembles the adjoining pargana of Deogaon and the southern circle of Nizamabad. There are numerous *jhils* and *usar* plains in it, and a very large part of the cultivated area grows rice only. The soil and physical conditions are of much the same character throughout the tract. There are a few villages of lighter soil with but little rice land in the north-east on the banks of the Mangai, and in the south-east lies a small group of villages in which the clay is blacker and richer than elsewhere in the pargana. But with these exceptions there are no distinctive physical features to record. Of the total area 24,342 acres or 29·88 per cent. are returned as barren, including land covered with roads, buildings, water and the like ; and 10,262 acres or 12·59 per cent. are culturable waste, of which 786 acres are covered with groves and 2,527 acres are new fallow.

The cultivated area in the year of survey amounted to 46,869 acres or 57·53 per cent. of the total. The system of cultivation does not differ from that found elsewhere in the district. Of the whole cultivated area 23,874 acres or 50·94 per cent. is *harjins* land

capable of growing all crops, while 22,995 acres or 49·06 is rice land which supports rice only. The latter is a high percentage, which renders cultivation in the tract decidedly precarious if the rainfall is irregular or deficient. Irrigation is extensively practised and 61·84 per cent. of the cultivation is watered. But two-thirds of this is served by tanks and *jhils,* which depend for their replenishment on the annual monsoon; while of the remainder nearly the whole is watered from wells. Some irrigation however is carried on from the Besu, which is dammed for this purpose at various points ; and in the south-eastt here is a number of villages solely dependent on this stream for their water supply. The *khari/* is the most important harvest, occupying over 76 per cent. of the cultivated area in both harvests as against 45 per cent. occupied by the *rabi*; which 22 per cent. of the cultivated area is cropped twice in the same year. No *zaid* or hot weather crops are ordinarily raised in the tahsil. Rice covers over 70 per cent. of the area devoted to the *kharif,* the only other crops grown in large quantities being sugarcane, maize and the small millets ; while in the *rabi*, the bulk of the area is sown with barley or with peas and gram intermixed. In this harvest a larger proportion than in most parganas is devoted to *latri*, a kind of vetch, which is chiefly grown in the black clay or *karail* tract of the south-eastern portion of the pargana. Bela-Daulatabad contains 230 villages, divided into 322 *mahals*, each portion of a complex *mahal* in each village through which it extends being counted as a separate *mahal.* In this pargana, however, there are not many complex *mahals,* and such as there are consist generally of a small number of complete villages. Of the whole number 30 are held in single and 112 in joint *zamindari* : there are 37 perfect *pattidari* estates, 36 being in the *khuntaiti* form of tenure and only one in the *bighadam*, while of those that are imperfect *pattidari* 127 are *khuntaiti* and 16 *bighadam*. The number of individuals owning land within the pargana is 4,878, each having on an average a share 9·6 acres of cultivation ; but this average is somewhat raised by the inclusion of the Raja of Jaunpur's property in the total. The chief land-holding caste is that of Rajputs who own 39·12 per cent. of the total area of the pargana. These Rajputs

are mostly of the Gautam clan and their possessions are for the most part confined to *tappa* Daulatabad. The most important families live in the village of Khajari and are usually known as the Khajari Babus; but the majority of the clan are small and struggling proprietors. Next to the Rajputs come Bhuinhars who hold 17·30 per cent. of the land, for the most part in *tappa* Bela; and they are closely followed by Brahmans and Musalmans, each of whom hold 16·92 per cent. One-third of the landed property owned by Brahmans belongs to the Raja of Jaunpur; and the only other landholders of this caste that deserve mention are the Pandes of Nai and Sheikhupur. Among Musalmans the largest properties are held by the Saiyids of Jaunpur who own Janmawan and Mahuari in *tappa* Bela, and the Saiyids of Sarai Mir. The chief cultivating castes are Ahirs, Bhuinhars, Brahmans, Chamars and Rajputs; others are Pasis, Koeris and Lunias. Proprietors as such cultivate 41·84 per cent. of the land, occupancy tenants 42·41 per cent. and tenants-at-will 5·76 per cent.; 8·81 per cent. of the area is grain-rented and 1·88 per cent. is rent-free. High-caste occupancy tenants pay a rent-rate of Rs. 4·95 per acre and high-caste tenants-at-will one of Rs. 5·24 per acre, compared with rates of Rs. 6·07 and Rs. 6·33 paid by their low-caste brethren.

The population of Bela-Daulatabad numbered 72,690 persons in 1872, and in 1881 this number had risen to 84,219. There was a further increase to 91,494 in 1891, the density being then 720 persons per square mile; but at the last enumeration in 1901, there were only 75,830 inhabitants in the pargana and the density had sunk to 597 persons per square mile. The decrease between 1891 and 1901 thus amounted to 17 per cent. and was much in excess of that in parganas Deogaon and Nizamabad; but the pargana suffered severely from the drought of 1896-97 and the bad seasons for rice which preceded and succeeded it, and the effects of this period of depression have not yet been obliterated. Classified according to religion, there were 69,540 Hindus, 6,262 Muhammadans and 28 persons of other religions. The population of the pargana is purely agricultural and there are no manufactures in it. There is no town in it, and with the exception of Mehnagar

there is no village of which the population exceeds 2,000 souls. Emigration is freely resorted to by the inhabitants who are assisted to a material extent by remittances from members of their families in service abroad. The pargana is crossed in the centre and west by the metalled roads from Azamgarh to Benares and Jaunpur. On the east, an unmetalled road has been recently made from Belha in pargana Belhabans *viâ* Mehnagar to Muhammadpur, where the Benares metalled road leaves the Jaunpur road, and another unmetalled road leads northwards from Mehnagar to Gambhirban, so that the communications are equal to the needs of the pargana.

BELHA, *Pargana* BELHABANS, *Tahsil* DEOGAON.

This village lies in latitude 25° 48′ N. and longitude 83° 12′ E., in the south-west corner of the pargana close to the Ghazipur boundary, at a distance of 31 miles from the district headquarters by the road *viâ* Mehnagar and Muhammadpur. It contains neither school, post-office nor pound, and is only important as giving its name to the pargana of Belhabans. In 1901 it had a population of 796 persons, of whom 763 were Hindus and 33 were Muhammadans, Chamars being the predominant Hindu caste. The place has been recently connected by an unmetalled road with Mehnagar and Muhammadpur, at the latter of which a junction is effected with the Jaunpur-Azamgarh metalled road. At Jandwa, which lies about a mile to the south, is a school, and there also an annual fair in honour of Bhawani held on the ninth day of the light half of *Chait.*

BELHABANS *Pargana, Tahsil* DEOGAON.

The pargana of Belhabans lies in the east of the Deogaon tahsil, and is bounded on the north by parganas Chiriakot and Qariat Mittu of tahsil Muhammadabad, on the west by pargana Bela-Daulatabad of tahsil Deogaon, and on the south and east by the Ghazipur district. It is a small pargana with a total area of only 39,013 acres or 61 square miles ; and it is locally divided into two *tarafs*, Uttarha and Dakhinha, but the division does not correspond to any difference in physical configuration.

Belhabans lies between the Mangai river on the north and the Besu on the south. Both streams run between high banks, and into them open at intervals small *nalas* and ravines which carry off the drainage of the higher lands. The Loni, a small open *nala*, flows across the pargana in a line nearly parellel to these two streams from north-west to south-east. The natural soil of those villages that lie along the Mangai and Besu is chiefly the sandy clay known as *balsundar*. The soil of those that are situated in the valley of the Loni, except at its eastern end where *balsundar* again prevails, is chiefly clay and black *karail* earth; and the soils of the villages lying between the Mangai and Loni and Besu and Loni are variously *balsundar* and clay. Generally the pargana resembles in natural features the south-eastern tract of pargana Deogaon. Of the total area 9,869 acres or 25·29 per cent. are recorded as barren, including under this head the land covered with water, sites, roads and the like, while 6,604 acres or 16·93 per cent. are returned as culturable waste, 493 acres being occupied by groves and 1,326 acres being land recently thrown out of cultivation.

The cultivated area amounted in the year of survey (1901) to 22,540 acres or 57·78 per cent. of the whole. Classified according to the distinctions recognised at the settlement, 65·3 per cent. of this area was *rabi* or *harjins* land, while 34·7 per cent. was rice land. The system of cultivation does not differ from that found in other parganas of this district and needs no separate description. The *zaid* or extra harvest is insignificant in area, and, of the two main harvests, the *kharif* is the more important, occupying 65·27 per cent. of the cultivated area as against 54·88 per cent. sown with *rabi*, 20·66 per cent. being twice cropped. Two-thirds of the area in which *kharif* crops are grown is devoted to rice, and the only other crops grown in that harvest to any extent are sugarcane, maize and *arhar*. In the *rabi* nearly the whole area is occupied by barley and gram and peas intermixed, while a small and increasing area is devoted to wheat. Irrigation is extensively practised, no less than 63·9 per cent. of the cultivated area receiving irrigation. Wells are the chief source of supply, over two-thirds of the irrigated area being dependent on them and no less

than 959 being at work in the pargana; but about one-quarter of the area derives its supply from tanks and 700 acres are irrigated from the rivers and streams.

There are 179 villages in the pargana, which are at present divided into 694 *mahals*. Of the latter 12 are held in single and 435 in joint *zamindari*; while of the *pattidari* estates, 70 are perfect *pattidari khuntaiti*, 3 are perfect *pattidari bighadam*, 151 are imperfect *pattidari khuntaiti*, and 23 are imperfect *pattidari bighadam*. There are no large landholders in the pargana and practically the whole of it is held by large cultivating communities, the total number of individual landholders, counting those who hold in several villages once only, is 3,423 with an average cultivated share of 7·1 acres apiece. Rajputs, all, with the exception of a very few, of the Bais clan, hold 89 per cent. of the pargana, and after them at a long interval come Brahmans, Banias and Khattris. Musalmans are nearly absent from the pargana as landlords. As cultivators, however, the Rajputs hold less of the land than might have been anticipated; for Ahirs hold nearly as large an area, and Brahmans, Lunias and Chamars all cultivate a large acreage. Proprietors as such till 46·2 per cent., occupancy tenants 40·4 per cent., and tenants-at-will 9·6 per cent., of the land, while 2·5 per cent. is grain rented and 1·3 is rent-free. High-caste occupancy tenants pay a rate of Rs. 4·58 per acre as compared with a rate of Rs. 5·30 paid by similar tenants of low-caste; while the rates for tenants-at-will are Rs. 5·10 and Rs. 5·69 respectively. The population has shewn similar fluctuations to those observed in other parganas. In 1872 it numbered 33,986 persons and this rose to 39,884 in 1881. There was a further rise to 44,947 in 1891, the density being 737 persons to the square mile; but at the last enumeration in 1901 the figure had fallen to 36,213 or 594 persons to the square mile. Classified according to religion, there were 35,269 Hindus, 940 Muhammadans and four persons of other religions. The population of the pargana is practically entirely agricultural and there is no place in it that can be called a town. The communications of the pargana are somewhat defective, and there is no well-known market place in it. It is crossed from south-west to north-east by an unmetalled road which

starting at Bardah on the Jaunpur-Azamgarh metalled road passes through Deogaon and Parwah to Chiriakot. Another unmetalled road runs from Bahriabad in the Ghazipur district and joins this road about a mile and a half west of Bansgaon ; and a road has recently been made from Belha to Muhammadpur on the Jaunpur-Azamgarh road. There is, however, no metalled road at all in the pargana, and the nearest point at which one is met is at Chiriakot, so that the pargana is difficult of access in the rains.

One peculiarity of the pargana is the complexity of the tenures in which the Bais communities hold their land, especially in *taraf* Uttarha. This complexity has resulted from the subdivision of the old *taluqas* originally held by families traing back their descent to a common ancestor. Thus *taluqa* Unchhakuan in *taraf* Dakhinha, which extends through ten villages, has been partitioned into 99 *mahals*, and *taluqa* Kuretha in *taraf* Uttarha, which in 1877 consisted of six complete villages and shares in 14 others, has now been divided into no less than 238 portions. For each of these a separate record of proprietors and tenants has to be kept up, necessitating great labour and trouble on the part of the record staff.

BHAGATPUR, *Pargana* AND *Tahsil* SAGRI.

The village of Bhagatpur lies in 26° 13′ N. and 83° 12′ E., less than a mile north-west from Bilariaganj and close to the unmetalled road from Jianpur to Maharajganj. It is 11 miles distant from Azamgarh and nine miles from Jianpur. The place is not one of any importance, but is noticeable from the tradition that Saiyid Salar Ma'sud Ghazi rested in it in the course of his crescentade. A large fair, attended by same 4,000 people, is annually held in his honour on the third of the light half of *Baisakh*. The population has considerably declined of late years, for in 1891 it numbered 1,279 persons, whereas in 1901 there were only 950 inhabitants, of whom 771 were Hindus and 155 Musalmans, Chamars being the predominant Hindu caste.

BILARIAGANJ, *Pargana* AND *Tahsil* SAGRI.

Bilariaganj is a large village lying in the centre of tahsil Sagri in latitude 26° 7′ N. and longitude 83° 12′ E. The roads from Jianpur to Maharajganj and from Azamgarh to Raunapur intersect at this point, so that the place is well connected on all sides, the distance to Azamgarh being a little over 10 miles and that to Jianpur some eight miles. The place contains an upper primary school and a branch post-office ; and market is held every Wednesday and Saturday, the chief local industries being the manufacture of sugar and cotton cloth. The population has fluctuated during the twenty years preceding the census of 1901; for in 1881 there were 2,016 inhabitants in the village, and in 1891 the number had risen to 2,278. At the last enumeration the inhabitants numbered 2,054, of whom 993 were Hindus and 1,053 were Musalmans, 24 persons being of other religions. The numerically strongest caste was that of Pathans. There is a trigonometrical survey station in the village with a recorded level of 260 feet.

CAPTAINGANJ, *Pargana* GOPALPUR, *Tahsil* SAGRI.

This village is situated on the Azamgarh-Fyzabad road in latitude 26° 12′ N. and longitude 83° 4′ E., at a distance of eleven miles from Azamgarh. An unmetalled road leads northwards from it to Maharajganj, and about two miles to the south-east the road from Nizamabad joins the Fyzabad road. The place contains a small school, and a market is held in it twice a week on Mondays and Fridays. In 1901 the inhabitants numbered 1,082 persons, of whom 983 were Hindus and 99 were Musalmans, Ahirs being the predominant Hindu caste.

CHANDPATTI, *Pargana* AND *Tahsil* SAGRI.

This large village lies in the extreme north of the district in latitude 26° 16′ N. and longitude 83° 16′ E., on the banks of the Chhoti Sarju which encircles it on three sides. It is only important for its size, the population at the census of 1901 being returned at 2,128 persons. This number has remained practically unchanged since 1881, and of the whole 1,182 are Hindus and 946 are Musalmans, Sheikhs being the predominant

caste. Chandpatti is an important market town, bazar being held on Thursdays and Sundays. It also has a primary school.

CHIRIAKOT, *Pargana* CHIRIAKOT, *Tahsil* MUHAMMADABAD.

The town of Chiriakot, which gives its name to the pargana, lies in latitude 25° 53′ N. and longitude, 83° 18′ E., on the metalled road from Ghazipur to Azamgarh. Unmetalled roads lead south-westwards from it to Belha and Deogaon and northwards to Muhammadabad, while from the latter another unmetalled road branches off at Sultanipur towards Mau. The name of the place is derived, according to one tradition, from the Cheros, an aboriginal tribe ; and, according to another tradition from a Hindu chief named Chiria. But whatever be the origin of the name, the place is probably one of some antiquity. At one time it appears to have received the name of Qasba Mubarakpur ; but this name has long since dropped out of use. The Abbasi Sheikhs who are the chief inhabitants of the place claim to be descended from one Ismail Abbasi, who they say took it from the Hindus in the time of the Sharqi Sultans of Jaunpur. Ismail Abbasi named Yusufabad, one of the *mauzas* in which the town stands, after one of his sons, and Mubarakpur, a *mauza* in its vicinity, but outside its bounds, after another of them. Under the Mughals Chiriakot was the headquarters of the pargana officers and of a *qazi*, but no mention of it is to be found in the historians of the period. On the outskirts of the town is the large mausoleum of Hatim Khan, who appears to have been a Sheikh of Chiriakot and to have held office and acquired wealth at the imperial court during the earlier part of the eighteenth century. But he has left no immediate descendants and no complete account of him is forthcoming from the inhabitants.

The town is a large one and is situated in *mauzas* Chiriakot Khas, Zamin Burhan, Raqba Shukurullah, Zamin Ataullah and Yusufabad. It has been administered under Act XX of 1856 since the year 1864; and for purposes of administration under the Act the small *bazar* of Barhalganj, distant about one mile to the west, is treated as part of the town. The income which is raised by the usual method of assessment under the act amounts annually to

some Rs. 786, and is expended in the maintenance of a conservancy staff of three sweepers, a police force of five men, and in simple works of improvement in the town. The town contains a police station, upper primary school, post-office and cattle-pound. Two small fairs are also held in it, one, the *Dasahra*, on the tenth day of the light half of *Kuar*, and the other in honour of Saiyid Salar Ma'sud Ghazi in the month of *Jeth*. Markets are not held in Chiriakot and the population is of a miscellaneous kind which carries on no special trade or manufacture. A little sugar-refining, however, is done and some cloth is manufactured. Markets are held every Tuesday and Saturday at Barhalganj. The Village Sanitation Act (U. P. Act II of 1892) is in force. The population of the united townships has somewhat declined of late years. In 1881 it numbered 3,414 persons, and this rose to 3,606 in 1891. At the last enumeration in 1901 there were 3,240 inhabitants, of whom 1,933 were Hindus, 1,295 Musalmans and 12 of other religions.

CHIRIAKOT *Pargana*, *Tahsil* MUHAMMADABAD.

The pargana of Chiriakot lies in the south-east of the district and is bounded on the west and south-west by parganas Qariat Mittu and Belhabans, on the north and east by pargana Muhammadabad, and on the south by pargana Shadiabad in the Ghazipur district. In shape it is a rough oblong with an average length of twelve and an average breadth of five miles; and it has a total area of 47,528 acres or 74 square miles. Its natural features are typical of the great southern subdivision of the district. Most of the land lies low, the soil is for the most part clay, and *usar* tracts abound. The drainage is sluggish, and there are numerous marshes both large and small especially to the west before the drainage channels have become well-defined. The greater part of the tract is drained into the Bhainsahi *nala* which takes its origin in two lines of *jhils*, one lying along the northern limit of Qariat Mittu and the other issuing from the Gambhirban lake on the west. These two meet at the north-eastern corner of Chiriakot and continue in a south-easterly direction, forming the boundary line between this pargana and that of Muhammadabad. For the greater part of its course the stream lies but little below the level of the surrounding country

and the water is held up in it by a succession of dams. On the south the pargana is drained by the Mangai which rises far beyond its boundries in Mahul and Nizamabad. This is a well-defined stream and flows between comparatively high banks before it reaches the borders of Chiriakot. It forms the boundary between Chiriakot and Belhabans and receives the drainage of a narrow strip of country along its banks.

The prevailing soil of the pargana is clay, but loam is found in the villages along the Mangai, more particularly at the east end. Their number, however, is very small : and classified according to the distinction recognised at the settlement, 63·59 per cent. of the cultivated area is *rabi* or *harjins* land, while 36·41 per cent. is rice land. The barren area of the pargana is returned at 11,144 acres or 23·45 per cent. of the whole. This includes the area covered with water, sites, roads, buildings, and the like, but the proportion is a high one owing to the large extent of *usar*. The culturable area out of cultivation amounts to 10,752 acres or 22·62 per cent., of which only 2,189 acres or 4·60 per cent. are land recently thrown out of cultivation. The area under the plough in the year of survey (1901-02) was 25,632 acres, the proportion to total area being 53·93 per cent. The system of cultivation pursued in Chiriakot does not differ from that found in other parganas ; nor do the crops grown vary. The *zaid* or extra harvest is insignificant in area ; and of the other harvests the *kharif* is the more important, 71·18 per cent. of the total cultivation in both harvests being devoted to autumn crops as against 50·02 sown with *rabi*, while 5,485 acres or 21·40 per cent. of athe rea are twice cropped in the year. The chief autumn crop is as usual rice ; and of others, sugarcane, *arhar* and the small millets are the most important. In the *rabi*, the bulk of the area is devoted to barley, alone or in combination, and to gram and peas intermixed. Of the total cultivated area no less than 14,884 acres or 58·07 per cent. are irrigated, out of which 12,500 acres are served by wells and the remainder by tanks, *jhils* or rivers. There are 1,099 masonry or half-masonry wells in the pargana, the majority of which, owing to the nearness of the water to the surface, are worked by the *dhenkul* or lever.

The pargana contains 289 villages divided into 483 *mahals*, counting separately each portion of a complex *mahal* in each village into which it extends. Of these *mahals* 54 are held in single and 132 in joint *zamindari* tenure; while of the perfect *pattidari* estates, 51 are *khuntaiti* and 38 are *bighadam*. There are 208 imperfect *pattidari* estates, 161 being *khuntaiti* and 47 *bighadam*. The number of individual proprietors is 4,181, each having an average holding of 6·6 acres. Rajputs are the chief proprietary caste, holding 53·21 per cent. of the entire pargana; and after them come Musalmans with 16·38 per cent.; Brahmans, 9·20 per cent.; Banias, 5·66 per cent.; Khattris; 5·16 per cent.; Kayasths, 3·58 per cent.; and Bhuinhars 2·29 per cent. There are, however, no large individual proprietors in the pargana. The villages owned by the Raja of Jaunpur have been sold : but a few are still in the hands of the heirs of Babu Durga Prasad, the well-known Khattri of Gorakhpur. The heirs of Ali Ashraf hold the assignment of the revenue of seven villages ; and seven complete villages; belong to Saiyid Ali Hammad, which were inherited from Ali Naqi. The chief cultivating castes are Rajputs, Ahirs, Chamars, Brahmans and Koeris. Of the total holdings area 45·41 per cent. is held by proprietors as such, 43·51 per cent. is in the hands of occupancy tenants, and 8·77 per cent. is in those of tenants-at-will ; 1·46 per cent. is grain-rented and ·85 per cent. is rent-free. High-caste tenants with 23·48 per cent. of the holdings area pay a rate of Rs. 4·47 or Rs. 5·42 per acre according as they have or have not declared rights; while low-caste tenants with 27·60 per cent. of the holdings area pay Rs. 5·86 and Rs. 6·24 per acre respectively under similar conditions.

The population of the pargana has shown the same variations that have been found in other parganas of the district. In 1872 there were 42,344 inhabitants, the density being 527 persons to the square mile. The number rose steadily to 50,557 in 1881 and to 55,230 in 1891, the density in the latter year reaching the high figure of 746 persons per square mile. But at the last enumeration in 1901 a large fall was found to have taken place : the population had decreased to 45,748 and the density

to 618 persons per square mile. Classified according to religion, there were 40,860 Hindus, 4,871 Musalmans and 17 persons of other religions in the pargana. The population is practically entirely agricultural in character, half being agriculturists pure and simple and nearly half the remainder field labourers. The only town in the pargana is Chiriakot, the capital, and the next two largest villages are Barahtir Jagdispur, better known as Jahanaganj, and Mittupur with 2,601 and 1,618 inhabitants respectively. Jahanaganj and Barhalganj are the two chief market towns. The communications may be regarded as satisfactory. The metalled road from Azamgarh to Ghazipur traverses the pargana from north-west to south-east in the line of its greatest length, and no villages except a few in the extreme west are at any great distance from it. Besides this, an unmetalled road leads north-eastwards from Chiriakot and bifurcates into two branches at the pargana boundary, one leading to Muhammadabad and the other to Mau. Another metalled road passes southwestwards to Belha and Deogaon.

The pargana forms a separate subdivision only for assessment and revenue purposes; but for fiscal convenience a further subdivision is recognised into four *tappas*, namely, Haveli, which contains the town of Chiriakot, Khanpur, Dharwara and Salemabad.

DABHAON, *Pargana* AND *Tahsil* DEOGAON.

This is a large village lying in 25° 46′ N. and 83° 5′ E., at a distance of 25 miles from Azamgarh and nine miles from the tahsil head quarters at Deogaon. The place is also known as Haibatpur and in 1901 contained a population of 1,433 souls, of whom 1,366 were Hindus and 67 were Muhammadans, Chamars being the numerically strongest Hindu caste. The place is one of no importance, and the only public building it contains is a primary school. It was here, however, that a Sanskrit inscription on a stone pillar was discovered bearing the date *Sambat* 1201 and the name of Govinda Chandra of Kanauj.

DEOGAON, *Pargana* AND *Tahsil* DEOGAON.

The capital town of the pargana and tahsil to which it gives its name lies in latitude 25° 44′ N. and longitude, 82° 57′ E., at

a distance of 28 miles from Azamgarh and only four miles from the district boundary. The town is situated on the metalled road which leaves the Azamgarh-Jaunpur road at Muhammadpur and runs southwards to Benares; while unmetalled roads' connect it with Bardah on the Azamgarh-Jaunpur road on the west and with Tarwah and Chiriakot on the east. The place is an old one, though there are no remains about it to attest the fact. The legend respecting its name is that when Saiyid Muhammad Baghdadi took possession of the tract after driving out the demon that inhabited it, he had so far mercy on the latter that he allowed the name of the place to bear testimony to its prior occupation by a demon. No historical interest attaches to the place. Under the native governments a *qazi* and the usual pargana officers were stationed in it; and the chief occupants now are the descendants of Muhammad Baghdadi some of whom held the office of *qazi* in days gone by. Except as the headquarters of the tahsil, Deogaon is a place of little importance. It is situated in *mauzas* Qasba Deogaon, Taraf Qazi, Mirzapur Nagdilpur, Girdharpur and Anantpur. The population is large but it has decreased. In 1891 there were 1,630 inhabitants in Qasba Deogaon; but in 1901 the number had fallen to 1,543, of whom 952 were Hindus and 583 Muhammadans, the remainder being of unspecified religions. Markets are held in Deogaon every Tuesday and Saturday, but they are small and are eclipsed by those held at Lalganj, four miles to the north. The only fair celebrated is the *Dasahra* on the tenth day of the light half of *Kuar*. Besides the tahsili, the town contains a police station, secondary school, post-office and pound. There is also a public encamping-ground and an inspection bungalow in the place.

DEOGAON *Pargana*, *Tahsil* DEOGAON.

The pargana of Deogaon is the most southerly pargana of the district. It consists of a narrow strip of country running west and east with an average length of 25 and an average breadth of 10 miles. On the western side lies pargana Mahul ; on the east pargana Belbabans; and on the north pargana Bela-Daulatabad.

The south-western boundary marches with that of Jaunpur and the south-eastern with that of the district of Ghazipur. The pargana is divided into a number of *tappas* which are recognised still for purposes of revenue assessment and which form convenient subdivisions of the tract; they are known as *tappas* Bardah, Shahpur, Shah-Salempur, Khurson, Saifabad, Chauri, Kuba and Haveli Deogaon, and are generally inhabited for the most part by members of the same caste or tribe. The total area of the pargana is 126,084 acres or 197 square miles.

The pargana has a gentle slope from west to east. It is drained by the river Besu on the north and the Gangi on the south, while the Udanti takes its rise in the heart of the pargana between Deogaon and Lalganj and flows between the other two. All these streams are small, and in the west their beds are but little below the level of the surrounding country. In the east their banks are higher, but, except where they are dammed, they only contain water during the rainy season. The natural features are typical of the southern division of the district. The soil is for the most part clay or a stiff clay loam, except in a few scattered villages along the Gangi and Udanti where some of the sandy loam, locally called *balsundar*, is found, more particularly in the south-east corner of the pargana. Most of the land lies low and in the rains much of it is under water, while everywhere, but especially in the west, are to be found large tracts of *usar*. Of the total area 27,036 acres or 21·44 per cent. are classed as barren, including the land covered with water, roads, sites and the like, and 30,100 acres or 23·88 per cent. are culturable but out of cultivation. The cultivated area in 1907-08 amounted to 68,948 acres or 54·68 per cent. of the whole. The typical Deogaon village consists of a hamlet, with a *chamraut* or low caste quarter attached, surrounded by a tract of raised land called in a general way its *rabi* land or *per*, and beyond this is lowlying rice-land known as *palo*, *kiari* or *dhanao*. The system of cultivation is simple and regular. The rice-land grows as a rule that crop only, chiefly the late or transplanted variety, but where the soil is suitable, that is, where it is a good lowlying black clay, *latri* and linseed can be sown as a second crop. The land which grows rice only is generally very inferior. The

remainder of the cultivated area is always called *rabi* land, though *harjins* would be a more appropriate name. On this are grown chiefly sugarcane, *arhar*, barley and peas, and to a smaller extent, maize, small millets and rice. The latter are invariably followed by barley or peas, unless the land is left fallow for sugarcane. Practically all the *rabi* land is irrigated and secured against drought, while the produce of the rice land is, except in a few favoured instances, liable to violent fluctuations. The cultivated area of the pargana is almost equally divided between rice and *rabi* land. The *kharif* is the more important of the two main harvests and occupies some 75 per cent. of the cultivated area against 42 per cent. sown with *rabi*, 14,582 acres or 21·15 per cent. being twice cropped in the year. The bulk of the *kharif* area is devoted to rice, the only other important crops being the small millets, sugarcane and maize; while in the *rabi* barley, alone or in combination, and gram intermixed with peas occupy practically the whole area sown in this harvest. Of the total cultivated area 31,036 acres or 45 per cent. were in 1907-08 irrigated but only 55 per cent. of the area is dependent on wells, the rest deriving its supply from tanks, *jhils* and rivers. Earthen wells are very little used and in 1907-08 there were 2,290 masonry or half-masonry wells at work.

There are now 451 villages in the pargana, five having been amalgamated with other villages at the recent settlement in 1903. Of these 32 are permanently settled, and for purposes of future reference it will be convenient to give their statistics separately. The remainder, 419 in all, are temporarily settled and are divided into 729 *mahals*, each portion of a complex *mahal* being counted separately for each village over which it extends. Of these 41 are held in single and 209 in joint *zamindari* ; while 60 are perfect *pattidari* and 270 imperfect *pattidari khuntaiti*, and 11 ar perfect *pattidari* and 138 imperfect *pattidari bighadam*. Rajput are the chief land holding caste and own 63·70 per cent. of th pargana; and after them come Bhuinhars, 14·25 per cent.; Brahmans, 8·79 per cent.; and Musalmans 6·17 per cent. The onl large proprietors in the pargana are Sheikh Wilayat Husain o Deogaon, the Bhuinhars of Sakraunda, both impoverished an

indebted, and Babu Bhupat Singh of Khajari. The total number of individual proprietors is 11,243, each having on an average 5·8 acres of cultivation a piece. The 32 permanently settled villages are divided into 35 *mahals*. Of the latter 13 are in the hands of single *zamindars* and 10 are held in joint *zamindari* tenure. There are 12 *pattidari* estates ; one being perfect *pattidari* and nine imperfect *pattidari khuntaiti*, while two are imperfect *pattidari bighadam*.

The chief cultivating castes in the pargana are Rajputs, Ahirs, Chamars, Brahmans, Koeris, Lunias and Zamindaras. In the temporarily settled villages, which may be taken as representative of the whole, proprietors as such cultivate 64·6 per cent. of the holdings area, occupancy and exproprietary tenants 24 per cent., and tenants-at-will 4·6 per cent.; 5·3 per cent. is grain-rented and 1·5 per cent. is rent-free. Occupancy tenants pay a rate of Rs. 5·54 per acre as compared with a rate of Rs. 5·94 paid by tenants-at-will ; but whereas high-caste occupancy tenants pay Rs. 4·77 per acre, low-caste tenants of similar status pay Rs. 5·99, the corresponding figures for tenants-at-will being Rs. 5·29 and Rs. 6·25 respectively.

The population of the pargana steadily increased from 101,472 persons in 1872, through 115,322 in 1881 to a total of 128,410 in 1891, the density in the last year being 652 persons to the square mile. At the last enumeration in 1901 there were 112,784 inhabitants, the resultant density being 573 persons to the square mile. Classified according to religion, there were 1,04,304 Hindus, 8,465 Musalmans and 15 persons of unspecified religion. The people are almost entirely devoted to agriculture, and the decrease of 12·2 per cent. in their number between 1891 and 1901 is to be attributed to emigration which was stimulated by the disastrous season of 1896-97 and the unfavourable years for rice which succeeded it. There is no town in the pargana, and no manufacture of any note is carried on in it. Deogaon, the tahsil headquarters, and Lalganj are the only two large villages. The latter is an important market-town. The pargana is fairly well-off in the matter of communications. Two metalled roads, those from Azamgarh to Jaunpur and from Muhammadpur to Benares, traverse the

western portion. In the east, however, the facilities are poorer, the only road being an unmetalled one which starting at Bardah runs to Deogaon and Tarwah, and thence to Chiriakot.

DEOGAON *Tahsil.*

Deogaon tahsil comprises the parganas of Deogaon, Bela-Daulatabad and Belhabans, and is the southern tahsil of the district, lying between the parallels of 25° 38′ and 25° 57′ north latitude and 82° 49′ and 83° 21′ east longitude. The total area of the tahsil is 248,768 acres or 389 square miles, and it contains 702 villages. The physical features of the tract have been fully described in the articles on the various parganas in it. The area included in the tahsil belongs to the southern division of the district and partakes of the character of the *banjar* or high lying portion of the Gangetic plain. The chief drainage lines flow from north-west to south-east ; and the country is a series of narrow parallel strips of land divided from each other by lines of swamps which have their outlets in *nalas* or deep-cut channels. These *nalas* are known as the Mangai, Loni, Besu, Dona, Udanti and Gangi, and it is only during the rainy season that they contain running streams. At the same period of the year the swamps which help to feed them spread over considerable areas, and so much of the land as comes within their influence without being entirely submerged is sown with rice. Here and there are considerable tracts of *usar* or land injured by *reh* and of stiff lowlying clay soil containing *kankar* gravel. The bulk of the soil is a stiff clay of the varieties known as *matiyar*, *kabsa* and *karail* ; but in places *balsundar* or light loam is also found. The hamlets have been built on those fertile places which are least liable to inundation, and the typical village consists of a site surrounded by a tract of raised land called *per* or *rabi* land, beyond which is an indefinite area of lowlying rice land known as *palo*, *kiari* or *dhanao*. Of the total area of the tahsil 74,619 acres or 29·99 per cent. are classed as barren and 57,959 acres or 23·30 per cent. as culturable land out of cultivation. The remainder which is cultivated amounts to 116,190 acres or 46·71 per cent. of the whole. The area annually irrigated amounts to 69,006 acres or 59·47

per cent. of the total area under the plough, over 50 per cent. of the area being served by tanks and *jhils*, 38 per cent. by wells and the remainder from other sources. The area twice cropped in the year is as much as 34,672 acres or 29·84 per cent. of the net cultivation, and exceeds that of every tahsil in the district. The principal harvest is the *kharif* which occupies on an average 87,569 acres as against 63,220 acres sown in the spring. The chief crops grown are rice, maize, sugarcane and *mandua* in the autumn; and barley, peas and wheat in the *rabi*, these crops being generally found intermixed with various other crops or with each other. Details regarding proprietors and tenants have been given in the pargana articles.

The population in 1881 numbered 239,425 persons, and this rose to 224,827 in 1891. At the last enumeration in 1901 there were only 224,827 inhabitants, of whom 113,737 were females. The decrease amounted to 17·80 per cent. and was much abve the district average. The density moreover was only 578 persons to the square mile, the lowest in the district. The decrease is attributable to extensive emigration stimulated by the bad seasons of 1896-97 and subsequent years, when the rice crop continuously failed, the tahsil being largely dependent on this crop. Classified according to religion, there were 209,113 Hindus, 15,667 Muhammadans, 33 Sikhs and 14 Aryas in the tahsil. The predominant Hindu castes are Chamars, 45,782 ; Rajputs, 32,406 ; Ahirs, 24,750 ; Brahmans, 18,630 ; Bhars, 12,163 ; and Bhuinhars, 10,843. Other castes occuring in numbers exceeding 2,000 apiece are Kahars, Koeris, Lunias, Pasis, Telis, Lohars, Kumhars, Banias, Kalwars and Kayasths. The Músalmans are chiefly Julahas, Sheikhs, Pathans and Behnas.

There is no town in the tahsil and the large villages have received separate mention. The people are almost wholly agricultural, and there is no industry of any note save sugar-refining and cotton-weaving. The western portion of the tahsil is well supplied with means of communication, being traversed by the metalled roads from Azamgarh to Jaunpur and from Muhammadpur to Benares. An unmetalled road leaves the latter not far from its junction with the Jaunpur road and runs south-east.

to Belha. But the only other roads in the tahsil are a short road from Mehnagar to Gambhirban in Bela-Daulatabad and a long tortuous track which starts at Bardah and runs along the south of Deogaon pargana past Tarwah and Belha till it reaches Chiriakot. The eastern portion of the tahsil is thus badly provided with means of communication.

For criminal and revenue purposes the tahsil forms a sub-division in the charge of a full-powered officer on the district staff. Original civil jurisdiction is vested in the sub-judge of Azamgarh. There are police stations at Bardah, Tarwah, Deogaon and Mehnagar ; but their circles do not make up the whole area, part being included in those of Gambhirpur and Chiriakot.

DHARWARA, *Pargana* CHIRIAKOT, *Tahsil* MUHAMMADABAD.

This large village is situated in the north-western portion of pargana Chiriakot, on the boundary of pargana Qariat Mittu, in 25° 56′ N. and 83° 13′ E. It is 12 miles distant from Azamgarh and seven miles from Chiriakot, but it lies nearly four miles off the metalled road connecting those two places and has no road leading to it. The population of Dharwara is large, but it has considerably decreased in late years. In 1881 there were 2,154 inhabitants, and in 1891 there were 1,932 ; but in 1901 the number had. fallen to 1,572 only, 1,553 being Hindus and 19 Muhammadans The village is owned and mainly inhabited by Gautam Rajputs and gives its name to a *tappa* : it also contains a school.

DIDARGANJ, *Pargana* AND *Tahsil* MAHUL.

This village lies in the west of the district, close to the Jaunpur boundary, in latitude 26° 0′ N. and longitude 82° 44′ E. Unmetalled roads connect it with Kheta Serai in Jaunpur to the west, Sarai Mir to the east, Mahul and Ahraula to the north, and with Jaunpur and Bardah to the south. It lies 29 miles due west of Azamgarh. The place is included in the revenue *mauza* of Khursahan Kalan and has a population of 936 persons, of whom 864 are Hindus and 72 Muhammadans. Didarganj itself is a place of no importance, but being situated at the junction of several roads, it was selected as the site of a police

station. There are also a pound, post-office and primary school in the place. No markets are held in it.

DOHRIGHAT, *Pargana* AND *Tahsil* GHOSI.

This important town is situated in 26° 16′ N. and 83° 31′ E., on the banks of the Ghagra river, at the point where the roads from Allahabad and Ghazipur to Gorakhpur unite and cross the river. It also has a station on a branch of the Bengal and North-Western Railway; this branch starts at Mau and for the present terminates at Dohrighat. The present town is said to have been settled by Jahan Khan, Raja of Azamgarh, and is therefore probably not more than one hundred and fifty years old. Jahan Khan threw an entrenchment round the place and another outside it was added by the local officers in the time of the Nawab Asaf-ud-Doula. From this the name of the town is said to have been derived, but another story is that its proper name is Dohni, the place where the cows of Nandmahar Ahir were milked. Nandmahar was according to tradition the cowherd of Ghazi Miyan and was turned into stone for some offence. His petrified body may still be seen near the village of Gontha. The bank on which the town is built is composed of firm soil mixed with *kankar*, and has been able to withstand the erosive force of the Ghagra : the river too at this point is confined within a narrow channel. Consequently Dohri not only developed into a favourite mart, at which extensive traffic in timber, grain, sugar and other commodities was carried on, but also from its position at the narrow crossing became a convenient station for the collection of transit dues. It is specified in the commercial treaty of 1788 between the Governor-General and the Nawab Wazir as one of the latter's appointed customs stations, and duties continued to be levied there until they were abolished in 1803. The only known historical incident connected with the place is the visit of Wazir Ali when flying from Benares to Gorakhpur after the murder of Mr. Cherry in 1799. Wazir Ali sought refuge in Dohri at the house of a Julaha named Bandhu. The latter and his father had accumulated much wealth at the court of Lucknow in the time of Asaf-ud-Doula; and they reaped the fruit of Wazir Ali's

visit to their house in a heavy fine which was levied on them by Nawab Sa'adat Ali. There is a large mosque which bears some testimony to the former prosperity of the place. The trade in timber is said to have much fallen off compared with former days; but the grain market is one of the largest and most important in the district, and there is also a considerable amount of business done in salt, molasses, tobacco and other miscellaneous articles. The produce which passes through it is partly distributed throughout the neighbouring parganas and partly transported by rail or road to more distant places such as Mau, Kopaganj and Ghazipur. The grain is of course brought down by boats from the trans-Ghagra districts. Market is held daily.

In 1881 the population of Dohri numbered 3,634 persons, and this fell to 3,305 in 1891. At the last enumeration in 1901 there was a slight revival, the inhabitants amounting to 3,417 souls, 2,890 being Hindus and 527 Musalmans. The place has been administered under the provisions of Act XX of 1856 since the year 1864. The income of the town which is raised by the usual method of assessment under the Act amounts on an average to Rs. 1,100 annually. This sum is expended in the maintenance of a small conservancy staff of five sweepers, a small force of police comprising six men of all grades, and in the execution of simple works of improvement within the town. The Village Sanitation Act (U. P. Act II of 1892) is in force.

Dohri contains a police station, combined post and telegraph office, cattle-pound and primary school. Every year on the day of the full moon of *Kartik* (October-November) a bathing festival is held here, the estimated attendance at which is 10,500 people. At Dhanauli close by is a military encamping-ground and at Dohri there is an inspection bungalow.

DUBARI, *Pargana* NATTHUPUR, *Tahsil* GHOSI.

This is one of the largest villages in the district and lies near the Ghagra river in latitude 26° 11′ N. and longitude 83° 42′ E. It is distant 36 miles north-east from Azamgarh and 14 miles from the tahsil headquarters at Ghosi, with which it is connected by an unmetalled road running past Madhuban and Natthupur

Khas. In 1881 the population numbered 7,502 persons ; this fell to 5,436 in 1891, but in 1901 the number had risen again to 6,319. The inhabitants, however, are not concentrated in a single site ; for there are several large hamlets, the total area of the *mauza* being 5,514 acres. Classified according to religion there were 5,927 Hindus and 392 Musalmans. Among the Hindus the numerically strongest caste was that of Rajputs, the majority of these being Chandels, who formerly owned the village. The village was confiscated for their misconduct during the Mutiny disturbances and conferred on Mr. Venables for his services at Azamgarh. Mr. Venables himself died in 1858 from the effects of a wound received in action, but his heirs continued to hold the estate until 1895, when it was sold to Saiyid Ihtisham Ali of Lucknow. The estate is a permanently settled one. Although the population is large the provisions of Act XX of 1856 have never been extended to Dubari, though the Village Sanitation Act (U. P. Act II of 1892) is in force in it. The people are practically all agriculturists, and the place is not even a market town. There is a lower primary school in the village.

GAMBHIRPUR, *Pargana* AND *Tahsil* NIZAMABAD.

This village lies in 25° 56′ N. and 82° 57′ E., on the metalled road from Azamgarh to Jaunpur, at a distance of 16½ miles from Azamgarh. The name of the revenue *mauza* is Bairadih, and the population in 1901 numbered 1,362 persons, 1,189 being Hindus, 171 Musalmans, and two persons of other religions. The place contains a police station, upper primary school, post-office and cattle-pound ; but is otherwise a place of no particular importcance.

GHOSI, *Pargana* AND *Tahsil* GHOSI.

The capital town of the pargana, and now also of the tahsil of the same name, lies in latitude 26° 6′ N. and longitude 26° 15′ E., on the metalled road from Ghazipur to Dohrighat. There is also a railway station of the same name on the Mau-Dohrighat section of the Bengal and North-Western Railway ; and unmetalled roads connect the place with Muhammadabad

Chak Mamu, Dubari and with Sikandarpur in Ballia. The distance to Azamgarh is 24 miles. The town is situated in *mauza* Qasba Ghosi, Jamalpur Murtazapur, Patti Muhammadabad and Madda Shamspur. It is a straggling place and the *mauzas* over which it is distributed belong to three different sets of Muhammadan proprietors. Ghosi is without doubt an old place and was probably once much larger than it is now ; for the weavers of Mau, who have been settled in that place at least three hundred years, are said to have immigrated to it from Ghosi. There are, however, no architectural remains of any age or importance in the place though there are the ruins of an old mud fort about which no certain traditions have been handed down. Ghosi was the headquarters of a *qazi* and pargana officers under native rule, and from the cession onwards a tahsil establishment was maintained in it. The latter seems to have been abolished about the year 1864.

In the year 1901, however, the tahsil of Ghosi was reconstituted, the headquarters being fixed at Ghosi, and at the present time the place contains a police station, post-office, cattle-pound and secondary vernacular school. A small market is held on Sundays and Thursdays ; and an annual fair is held on the tenth day of the light half of *kuar* (September-October). The population numbered 1,163 persons in 1891 and the number decreased to 1,065 in 1901. Classified according to religion there were 863 Hindus 137 Muhammadans and 64 persons of other religions in the place. The population will probably increase in the near future owing to the establishment of the tahsil. There is also a large military encamping ground in Ghosi.

GHOSI *Pargana*, *Tahsil* GHOSI.

The pargana of Ghosi lies in the north-east corner of the district. It is bounded on the north by the Ghagra which separates it from the district of Gorakhpur, and on the east by parganas Natthupur and Sikandarpur West, the latter belonging to the Ballia district; south-west lies pargana Mahammadabad, and on the north-west pargana Sagri. The total area of the pargana as it existed at the time of the settlement in 1903 was 167 square miles ; but on October 1st, 1904, two *tappas*, Nandwa and Nasrullahpur, of pargana

Muhammadabad were added to it, making the total area 152,549 acres or 239 square miles. This pargana like some of the others in the district is locally subdivided into *tappas* ; these are, excluding the two recently received from Muhammadabad, five in number and are known as *tappas* Semri, Haveli, Karhani, Gontha and Chakesar. One village, namely, Banata in *tappa* Chakesar, is permanently settled.

Although the pargana is washed by the Ghagra along its northern boundary, there is little alluvial land in it. This is due to the fact that at and for some distance to the east of Dohri the land is protected from the ravages of the river by *kankar* reefs, while the *bangar* country runs right up to and overlooks the main channel. The pargana is not, however, entirely without its *kachhar*, for the Chhoti Sarju flows down the western side and there is a broad strip of alluvial land all along its valley. The soil of the *bangar* is variable. In the northern half it is generally loam, much of it, particularly near Gontha and Imla, a good, stiff loam, but in the north-east it becomes somewhat light and sandy. *Tappa* Chakesar contains some light, reddish *balsundar*, which is not irrigated from wells and is generally devoted to *arhar*. In the south of the pargana and more particularly in *táppa* Semri, clay predominates and in this direction there is a considerable amount of rice land. This part of the pargana is drained to the south-east by two small streams, or rather lines of swamps, known as the Pharai and Basrai *nalas*. The north is drained partly into the Ghagra direct and partly into the *kachhar* of Natthupur ; while the surface water on the western side finds its way through the *kachhar* tract of the pargana into the Chhoti Sarju. The alluvial land along the Ghagra river, if such it may be called, consists merely of a few large sand banks. The cultivation in these is very precarious, as the confinement of the river between Dohri and Barhalganj in Gorakhpur prevents the stream from ever getting very far away from them, and they are therefore liable to devastating floods and deposits of sand. Just beyond Surajpur in the north-east corner there is a little pure alluvial soil which really belongs to the tract of northern Natthupur. This is protected from flooding by an embankment which extends west from Surajpur for seven or eight miles to

Dubari in Natthupur ; but only a very few villages lie in Ghosi. The soil of the *kachhar* in the west of the pargana is clay in the depressions and a light coarse sand elsewhere. The northern portion, as far as Pakri, is generally fair, but beyond this point the greater part is very light and poor. The *kachhar* tract of the Chhoti Sarju contains a large number of swamps and lakes, including the Pakri Pewa *tal*, the largest sheet of water in the district; and around the edges of these lakes there is a large extent of land which grows rice.

The total area of the pargana as now constituted is 152,549 acres. Of this 25,916 acres or 16·99 per cent. are recorded as barren waste, and 27,284 acres or 17·89 per cent. are culturable waste out of cultivation. The former class includes the land covered with water, 14,927 acres, and that occupied by sites, roads, buildings and the like ; and the latter comprises the area covered by groves, 3,185 acres, and all the land, waste or fallow, which is fit for cultivation. The remainder amounting to 99,359 acres on 65·12 per cent. were cultivated in 1907-08. The system of cultivation is similar to that in pargana Sagri, only a larger area is devoted to poppy and garden crops than in that pargana and there is a noticeable proportion of villages with small circles of high cultivation immediately round the site. About 20 per cent. of the holdings area in the *bangar* portion of the pargana is rice land and about 28 per cent. in the *kachhar*, the remainder being *harjins* land which supports all kinds of crops. The irrigated area in 1907-08 amounted to 55,711 acres or 56 per cent. of that cultivated, 88 per cent. of it being served by wells. The pargana as a whole is not quite so well watered as Sagri, though the *kachhar* is generally well supplied with water. The wells are nearly all worked by the lever (*dhenkul*), and in 1907-08 there were no less than 2,748 masonry and 3,220 non-masonry wells at work. The *kharif* is the most important harvest and in 1907-08 it occupied 67,558 acres as against 52,452 acres sown in the spring, 20,929 acres or 21 per cent. of the cultivation being twice cropped within the year. The *zaid* or extra harvest is utterly insignificant in area; and the chief crops grown in the autumn are rice, *arhar*, sugarcane, the small millets and maize; while in the spring barley, alone or in combination, and gram intermixed with peas are chiefly sown.

Pargana Ghosi now contians 326 villages, divided into 1,265 *mahals.* Of the latter 93 are in the hands of single landholders, 829 are held in joint *zamindari* tenure; and there are 343 *pattidari* estates. Those of the perfect *pattidari* form comprise 115 *khuntaiti* and 3 *bighadam mahals,* while those which are imperfect are divided into 195 *khuntaiti* and 30 *bighadam.* Five villages, divided into 3 single and 4 joint *zamindari mahals* and one imperfect *pattidari khuntaiti mahal,* are permanently settled. In the temporarily settled villages of the old pargana of Ghosi there were at the recent settlement in 1906, 7,005 proprietors, the average cultivated holding of each being 9·4 acres, a fair-sized allotment for Azamgarh. The chief landholding castes in the pargana are Bhuinhars, Musalmans, Rajputs and Kayasths. The first own about 46 per cent. of the whole area, and the largest individual proprietors in the tract are of that caste. These are Babus Mathura Prasad Singh and Kesho Prasad Narayan Singh, Basdeo Narayan Singh and the heirs of Sheo Gobind Singh, all Kurhanian Bhuinhars holding land in the Surajpur *taluqa.* Among the Muhammadans the most important families are the Saiyids of Baragaon and the Sheikhs of Ghosi. The chief cultivating castes are Ahirs, Bhuinhars, Chamars, Brahmans, Rajputs, Kurmis, Koeris and Bhars. Proprietors as such in 1907-08 cultivated 33·9 per cent. of the holdings area, occupancy and ex-proprietary tenants 43·6 per cent., and tenants-at-will 22·4 per cent., the remainder of the area being rent-free. The general incidence paid by all tenants at the recent settlement was found to be Rs. 5·61 per acre. High-caste occupancy tenants paid Rs. 4·49 as compared with Rs. 6·18 paid by low-caste occupancy tenants, the corresponding figures for tenants-at-will being Rs. 5·24 and Rs. 5·84 respectively. These were the rates paid in the 378 villages which came under settlement, but the latter comprised so large a portion of the area that they may be accepted as representative of the whole, particularly as they were carefully checked and attested.

The population of pargana Ghosi in 1872 was recorded as 75,246 persons, the density being 451 persons to the square mile, the lowest in the district. The figures like those of successive enumerations necessarily exclude the population of the villages

transferred from Muhammadabad in 1904; but in any case they appear to have been much understated, for in 1881 the number of the inhabitants had risen to 125,885 persons or a density of 754 persons to the square mile. This was exceeded in 1891 when the population was recorded as 139,916 or 838 persons to the square mile; but at the last enumeration in 1901 the number had dropped to 120,671, of whom 61,026 were females, the resultant density being 722 persons to the square mile. The decrease in the last decade of the century was common to all parganas and tahsils, but even since 1901 it is probable that Ghosi has lost some of its population, for in 1903-04 it was very severely visited by plague. Classified according to religion there were 108,934 Hindus, 11,613 Musalmans and 134 persons of other religions. Practically the entire population gains a livelihood by agriculture or the trade in agriculture produce; and there are no manufactures carried on in the pargana. The only towns in it are Kopaganj and Dohri which are administered under the provisions of Act XX of 1856; and the most populous villages are Imla, an important centre of sugar-refining, Surajpur, the home of the Surajpur Babus, Baragaon and Ghosi itself. The communications of the pargana are good. The Dohrighat branch of the Bengal and North-Western Railway traverses the pargana from north to south in the centre, and paralled to it runs the metalled road from Ghazipur to Dohrighat. Unmetalled roads connect Ghosi and Kopaganj with Muhammadabad; Jianpur with Imla; and Ghosi with Surajpur, Madhuban and Nagara; so that all parts of the pargana have direct and easy access to the railway, which has stations at Dohri, Ghosi, Kopaganj and Indora.

GHOSI *Tahsil*.

The tahsil of Ghosi is the north-eastern tahsil of the district and lies between the parallels of 25° 17′ and 26° 19′ N. and 83° 21′ and 83° 52′ E. The tahsil was only formed in 1904 by transfering parganas Natthupur and Ghosi from tahsil Sagri and adding to them *tappas* Nandwa and Nasrullahpur from pargana Muhammadabad, and is roughly triangular in shape. On the north the boundary is formed by the Ghagra river; on the west and south-

west lie tahsils Sagri and Muhammadabad, and on the east and south-east the district of Ballia. The total area, according to the recent survey, amounts to 234,371 acres or 366 square miles.

The physical features of the tract have been fully described in the separate articles on parganas Ghosi and Natthupur, and they need be only briefly recapitulated here. A considerable area of the tahsil falls into the *kachhar* tract, but this is in two portions, one lying in the extreme north-east of Natthupur and being a very lowlying tract liable to flooding, along the Ghagra river, and the other occupying the valley of the Chhoti Sarju. The latter enters the pargana a little to the north of Azmatgarh and joins the Tons not far from the town of Mau. This stream is the main drainage channel of the western portion of the tahsil, and its valley contains a large number of swamps and lakes, the best known of which are the Pakri-Pewa and Narja Tals. The soil of this valley is clay in the depressions and light course sand elsewhere; towards the north it is fair in quality, but south of the Pakri-Pewa Tal it is generally light and poor. In the *kachhar* along the Ghagra the soil is at first little but a succession of sand banks, but east of Surajpur the alluvial land becomes more extensive and the soil is for the most part the light but fertile loam known as *balsundar*. The *bangar* portion of the tahsil occupies the country intermediate between these two *kachhar* tracts, and completely separates one from the other. This is due to the fact that at and for some distance to the east of Dohrighat the land is protected from the ravages of the river by *kankar* reefs, the *bangar* running up and overlooking the main channel. The soil is variable. In the north it is generally a good, stiff loam, particularly in the neighbourhood of Gentha and Imla, though in the north-east and in Natthupur it becomes somewhat light and sandy. In the south on the other hand, and particularly in *tappa* Semri, clay predominates and in this direction there is a considerable amount of rice land. The northern portion of the tahsil drains generally into the Ghagra, the east into the Ratoi Tal, the west into the Chhoti Sarju, and the south and south-east into the Pharai and Basnai *nalas*.

Of the total area of the tahsil 50,070 acres or 21·36 per cent.

are classed as barren, 38,900 acres being covered with water. The culturable area out of cultivation amounts to 48,456 acres or 20·68 per cent. of the tahsil, including the lands occupied by groves and old and new fallow. The remainder, 135,845 acres or 57·96 per cent. are cultivated. Of this 90,584 acres or 66·68 per cent. are nominally irrigated, this being a higher proportion than in any other tahsil. The sources of irrigation are various, but nearly 54 per cent. of the area watered is served by wells, while 12·37 per cent. is watered from tanks, the rest being dependent on marshes, *jhils* and streams. The *rabi* is the principal harvest and occupies 94,185 acres as against 78,572 acres sown in the *kharif*, the area twice cropped within the year amounting to 38,052 acres or 28·01 per cent. of the net cultivation. The chief crops grown are barley, wheat intermixed with gram or barley, and peas in the *rabi*; and rice, sugarcane, and the small millets in the *kharif*. The *zail* or extra harvest is utterly insignificant in area. Owing to the fact that the tahsil has been only recently constituted no details regarding the population at the older enumerations are forthcoming. The total number of inhabitants according to the returns of 1901 was 260,840 persons, including the population of the transferred *tappas*; but judging from the figures of parganas Ghosi and Natthupur, population appears to have steadily increased between 1872 and 1891 and to have fallen between 1891 and 1901. The density is 713 persons to the square mile and is up to the district average. For the same reason no figures of the religions or castes in the tahsil are forthcoming; and the composition of the population can only be generally indicated. The numerically strongest castes are Chamars, Ahirs, Brahmans, Bhuinhars, Rajputs, Koeris and Bhars. Among Rajputs the best represented clans are Kakans, Kausiks, Chandels, Karamwas and Udmatias; while among Muhammadans Sheikhs and Pathans predominate. Practically the entire population is dependent for its means of subsistence on agriculture or the trade in agricultural produce. Details regarding the proprietors and tenants have been given in the pargana articles.

There are at present 519 villages in Ghosi tahsil and two towns. The latter are Dohrighat and Kopaganj which have been

separately described; and besides these there are few places of importance. Ghosi, the new headquarters of the tahsil, and Dubari, Gontha, Baragaon, Imla and Surajpur are merely large villages. Lists of the markets, schools, fairs and post offices will be found in the appendix. The communications of the tahsil are fairly good, except in the extreme north-east. The Mau-Dohri ghat section of the Bengal and North-Western railway traverses the tahsil from south to north, and the Bhatni-Benares section touches it on the south. Alongside the former runs the metalled road from Ghazipur to Gorakhpur. The unmetalled roads connect Ghosi and Kopaganj with Muhammadabad, Jianpur with Azmatgarh and Ghosi with Surajpur, Nagara and Madhuban. Another unmetalled road runs from Surajpur to Nagara. The passage of the Ghagra is effected by means of several ferries, the most important of which is that at Dohrighat which is under the control of the Public Works department.

For criminal and revenue purposes the tahsil forms a subdivision which is in the charge of a full-powered officer on the district staff. In police matters the jurisdiction is divided between the circles of Ghosi, Dohri and Madhuban; but these do not cover the whole area, for some villages fall within the circles of Sagri and Mau.

GONTHA, *Pargana* AND *Tahsil* GHOSI.

Gontha is a large village lying in 26° 14′ N. and 83° 28′ E., only two and a half miles south of Dohrighat. It is situated on the metalled road from Ghazipur to that place, and is 26 miles from Azamgarh and 9½ miles from the tahsil headquarters at Ghosi. A *tappa* or subdivision of the pargana is named after it. The village is a very large one and is owned by a very numerous body of Bhuinhar cosharers. In 1881 the population numbered 4,034 persons, a number which remained practically unchanged at the next enumeration in 1891. In 1901 however there was a large fall, the inhabitants numbering but 3,110 souls, of whom 2,897 were Hindus and 213 were Muhammadans. The village contains an upper primary school, and market is held twice a week on Sundays and Thursdays. The Village Sanitation Act (U. P. Act II of 1892) is in force in the place.

GOPALPUR *Pargana, Tahsil* SAGRI.

Gopalpur is a small pargana in the north centre of the district. It is bounded on the north by the river Ghagra, on the east and south it adjoins pargana Sagri, and on the west lie parganas Kauria and Nizamabad and pargana Bihar of the Fyzabad district. The area of the pargana varies to some extent according to the vagaries of the river, but in 1907-08 after the transference of the villages from Gorakhpur it was returned at 58,274 acres or 91 square miles.

The pargana is divided into two well-defined tracts, the *kachhar* or lowlying new alluvium in the valley of the Ghagra and the *bangar* or upland belonging to the old alluvial deposit which occupies the bulk of the district. The *kachhar* extends from this pargana eastwards as a strip of varying width along the river. It is bounded on the south by the Chhoti Sarju which flows both here and in Sagri just under the high bank which forms the edge of the *bangar* country. This river rises in the Fyzabad district and just as it enters Gopalpur it is joined by a branch of the Ghagra : it then proceeds in considerably augmented volume towards the north-east corner of the pargana where it bends to the south-east. It does not appear that any very great body of water enters the Chhoti Sarju at the junction ; but shortly before the settlement of 1876 the Ghagra itself broke into it at the north-east corner of Gopalpur and scoured out a bed far into Sagri. It did a considerable amount of damage at the time, but as soon as the stream moved away again to the north the cultivated area extended greatly in this tract. The soil of the *kachhar* is for the most part sandy and inferior. The autumn crops are very liable to injury from inundation and the soil is often too damp to permit of the spring crops being really good. The *bangar* country which occupies exactly half the total area of the pargana lies to the south of the *kachhar*. It is drained for the most part by the Kayar, a small stream which takes its rise in the pargana and, flowing in a southeasterly direction through Sagri, joins the Tons. The soil in the centre and south-west is generally a fairly stiff clay ; there is a

considerable area of rice land and some *usar*. The soil of the *rabi* or *harjins* land is loam, but a loam in which clay preponderates. The remainder of the *bangar*, that is the north-eastern portion, is a light sandy loam which resembles that of Atraulia and Kauria. The proportion of rice land is insignificant and there is but little waste.

Of the total area of the pargana 12,346 acres or 21·19 per cent. are classed as barren, including under this head the land covered with water, sites, roads and the like. The area of culturable land out of cultivation amounts to 10,323 acres or 17·71 per cent., 1,800 acres being land recently thrown out; while 35,605 acres or 61·10 per cent. of the whole are cultivated. The *kharif* is the more important of the two main harvests and in 1907-08 occupied 26,443 acres as against 16,978 acres devoted to the *rabi*, 7,958 acres or 22·35 per cent. of the cultivation being *dofasli* land or land which is twice cropped in the year. A little less than half the *kharif* area is covered with rice. In the *kachhar* tract the rice sown is mostly of the variety called *sokan*, which is sown broadcast and cut in September when the land is resown with *rabi*. There is very little transplanted rice. After rice come *arhar*, sugarcane and maize. In the *rabi*, barley, alone or in combination, occupies the bulk of the area, followed by gram intermixed with peas and wheat in combination with gram or barley. The irrigated area in 1907-08 was 12,636 acres or 35·48 per cent. of that cultivated, over two-thirds of the area being served by wells. The *bangar* upland is wells upplied with water and the percentage of irrigation wheres andy soil prevails is considerably higher than it is in other parganas. Almost all the wells are half-masonry and are worked by the *dhenkul* or lever. In the *kachhar* tract there is less necessity for irrigation owing to the natural moistness of the soil, but earthern wells are easily sunk if required. Over 500 acres are irrigated from the Chhoti Sarju itself.

Gopalpur contains 203 villages divided into 457 *mahals*, each portion of a complex *mahal* being counted separately in each village into wh ch it extends. Of these 73 are held in single and 193 in joint *zamindari*. There are 53 perfect *pattidari* estates,

33 being *khuntaiti* and 22 *bighadam*; and of the 136 imperfect *pattidari mahals* 120 are *khuntaiti* and 16 *bighadam*. The number of individual proprietors holding land in the pargana amounts to 3,162, each having an average cultivated holding of 8·52 acres. The only large proprietor in the pargana is the widow of Babu Durga Prasad, Khattri of Gorakhpur, who owns seven villages.

Of the cultivating castes Rajputs are the most important. They hold 35·01 per cent. of the land, and after them come Brahmans, 23·77 per cent., and Kayasths, 17 per cent. Musalmans own 14·72 per cent., half of which is in the hands of Zamindaras. The Rajput landholders are mostly Kausiks who displaced Ujjains before the advent of British rule; and the Brahmans are chiefly Misrs, their most important community being that of Akhaichanda. The chief cultivating castes are Ahirs, Brahmans, Rajputs, Chamars and Koeris, Ahirs holding nearly as much land as the other four castes put together. Proprietors as such cultivate 35 per cent. of the holdings area, occupancy and exproprietary tenants 32 per cent. and tenants-at-will 32 per cent.; 22 per cent. is grain-rented and ·82 per cent. is rent-free. The only noticeable feature in the figures is the amount of land held by non-occupancy tenants, the bulk of this being in the hands of low-caste tenants. This is due to the large extent of alluvial land in the pargana in which cultivation is not continuous. High caste occupancy tenants with 14·31 per cent. of the holdings area pay a rent rate of Rs. 4·08 an acre as against a rate of Rs. 5·27 paid by occupancy tenants of low-caste. On the other hand low-caste tenants-at-will pay Rs. 4·03 an acre compared with a rate of Rs. 4·45 paid by high caste tenants of similar status.

Similar changes have taken place in the number of the inhabitants of Gopalpur to those found elsewhere, though the figures necessarily exclude the population of the transferred villages. The population in 1872 was returned at 37,012 persons, and this rose to 49,844 in 1881. In 1891 the inhabitants numbered 54,645 persons, the density being no less than 867 persons to the square mile; but by 1901 the number had fallen to 49,754 and the density to 790 persons to the square mile. Of this total 23,977 were females; and classified according to religion there

were 46,347 Hindus, 3,401 Musalmans and 6 persons of other religions. The population is almost entirely agricultural. The only town in the pargana is Maharajganj which is administered under Act XX of 1856, and the only village with over 2,000 inhabitants is Naubarar Diwara Jadid *Qita Awwal*. The latter, however, comprises a large alluvial tract and the sites are not of a permanent character. According to the census returns 66 per cent. of the people were purely agriculturists and nearly 20 per cent. were labourers, the latter being of course mainly engaged in agricultural pursuits. The road from Azamgarh to Fyzabad—once metalled but now reduced to the second class—passes through the little bazar of Captainganj in the extreme south-west corner of Gopalpur. From that place a road goes northward to Maharajganj, through which the road from Jianpur to Koelsa passes. Another road which is hardly more than a track connects Maharajganj with Chhapri. The latter was in 1875 an important grain market; but since the Ghagra moved its course to the north, it has degenerated into a very small bazar. On the whole the communication are sufficient for the needs of the pargana.

IMLA KHAS, *Pargana* AND *Tahsil* GHOSI.

This large village lies in 26° 7′ N. and 83° 28′ E., close to the junction of the unmetalled road from Jianpur with the metalled road from Ghazipur to Dohrighat. In 1881 the place had a population of 4,644 persons and in 1901 there were 4,833 inhabitants, 4,585 being Hindus and the remainder Musalmans. Imla contains an upper primary school and post-office: it is also an important bazar, market being held every Wednesday and Saturday, and a centre of sugar refining. The proprietors are Bhuinhars of Surajpur whose ancestors built the mud fort, the ruins of which still exist.

JAGDISPUR, *Pargana* AND *Tahsil* NIZAMABAD.

This large village lies at a distance of 20 miles west from Azamgarh on the road from Azamgarh to Shahganj in latitude 26° 4′ N. and longitude 82° 56′ E., The village is divided into six hamlets, called Chhitai, Harju, Bhoga, Deu, Pande and Chhittan.

These owe their origin to the subdivision of the village area amon the different communities who hold it; the chief of these are Ahir In 1881 Jagdispur had a population of 2,806 persons and th number had increased in 1891 to 3,064. In 1901 however ther were 2,851 inhabitants, 2,097 being Hindus and 754 Muhamma dans. These are for the most part agriculturists, but Julaha are the predominant caste and they carry on some cotton weaving The place contains an upper primary school and the Village Sanita tion Act (U. P. Act II of 1892) is in force.

JAHANAGANJ, *Pargana* CHIRIAKOT, *Tahsil* MUHAMMADABAD.

Jahanaganj is the main hamlet of the large village of Barahti Jagdispur and lies on the metalled road from Azamgarh to Ghaz pur in 26° 58′ N. and 83° 14′ E. The distance from Azamgarh 11½ miles and to Chiriakot 7 miles. For purposes of enumeratio the population of Jahanaganj is included in that of the paren *mauza*, Barahtir Jagdispur. In 1881 the village had a populatio of 2,324 persons and in 1901 this number had increased to 2,601 of whom 1,411 were Hindus and 1,190 Muhammadans, Jula has being the numerically strongest caste. Jahanaganj, howeve gives its name to a station on the Bengal and North-Wester Railway which is situated 5½ miles to the north. There are a upper primary school, post-office and cattle-pound in the place and market is held every Monday and Tuesday. The village i owned by a community of Bhuinhars.

JAMILPUR, *Pargana* GOPALPUR, *Tahsil* SAGRI.

This large village lies on the borders of Gopalpur and Sag parganas close to the road which leads from Jianpur to Maharaj ganj, in 26° 13′ N. and 83° 8′ E. The population has considerabl decreased during the last 20 years, for in 1881 it numbered 2,18 persons and this rose to 2,256 in 1891. In 1901 there were onl 1,887 inhabitants, this figure comprising 1,604 Hindus and 28 Muhammadans. The place is only a large agricultural estat but it contains a well-attended upper primary school and is th scene of an annual fair on the tenth day of the light half of *Kua*

The distance to Azamgarh is 11 miles in a direct line or 15 miles by the road *viâ* Bilariaganj.

JIANPUR, *Pargana* AND *Tahsil* SAGRI.

Jianpur is a large village lying in 26° 9′ N. and 83° 18′ E., on the metalled road from Azamgarh to Dohrighat at a distance of 12 miles from the district headquarters. It is nearly two miles away from Sagri which gives its name to the tahsil of which Jianpur is the headquarters. A metalled road leads eastwards to Azmatgarh whence the road to Imla is unmetalled; unmetalled roads lead to westwards to Bilariaganj and Maharajganj. The place derives all the importance it has from the fact that it is the headquarters of the Sagri tahsil. It was originally settled by one Saiyid Zaid, the ancestor of the Muhammadans who own the village at the present day; and the tahsil establishment was moved to it about 1870 on account of its better position on the high road from Azmatgarh. The population however has decreased. In 1881 it numbered 2,173 souls, the number rising to 2,367 in 1891; but in 1901 there were only 2,012 inhabitants, 1,429 being Hindus and 583 Muhammadans. Chamars are the numerically strongest Hindu caste. Besides the tahsili, Jianpur contains a police station, encamping-ground, vernacular secondary school, post-office and cattle-pound; and a market is held every Sunday and Thursday in each week. The Village Sanitation Act (U. P. Act II of 1892) is in force.

JULAHAPUR, *Pargana* AND *Tahsil* SAGRI.

This village lies in 26° 7′ N. and 88° 5′ E., in the south-west of the pargana on the borders of pargana Nizamabad. The Azamgarh-Fyzabad road runs a mile and a half to the east of the site and the distance by this to the district headquarters is seven and a half miles. The village is merely a large agricultural estate, the population of which has considerably declined during the last 20 years preceding the census. In 1881 there were 2,845 inhabitants; and this fell to 2,740 in 1891 and to 2,448 in 1901. Classified according to religion there were 2,063 Hindus and 385 Muhammadans. Markets are held twice a week on Sundays and Thursdays.

KANDHRAPUR, *Pargana* AND *Tahsil* SAGRI.

This small village lies on the Azamgarh-Fyzabad road at a distance of six and a half miles from Azamgarh in latitude 26° 8′ N. and longitude. 83° 7′ E. It is a place of no importance and had in 1901 a population of only 861 persons, 783 being Hindus and 78 Musalmans. Ahirs are the numerically strongest caste among the Hindu inhabitants. Kandhrapur is, however, the site of a police station, and it also contains a post-office and a cattle-pound.

KAURIA *Pargana*, *Tahsil* MAHUL.

The small pargana of Kauria consists of a narrow strip of land running in a north-easterly direction from Ahraula, the head-quarters of the tahsil, to Maharajganj, a distance of some 15 miles. It is bounded on the west by pargana Atraulia, on the north by pargana Chandipur Bihar of the Fyzabad district, on the east by pargana Gopalpur, and on the south by pargana Nizamabad. The boundary for a short distance in the south-west is formed by the Tons river which divides the pargana from pargana Mahul. The total area in the year of survey and settlement (1903) was returned at 38,838 acres or 61 square miles.

Th ewhole of the tract is lowlying and water is everywhere near the surface. The Tons river runs in a comparatively low channel and near it the wells are rather deeper and somewhat more costly to build, but elsewhere the average depth of the subsoil water is about 15 feet. The soil is for the most part a light loam and much of it is sandy; while there are very few of those large clay depressions found in many parts of the district which are flooded in the rains. The drainage of the tract runs south and south-eastwards into the Tons river with the exception of a small area in the north which drains into the Chhoti Sarju. Classified according to the soil distinctions recognised at the settlement 73 per cent. of the cultivated area is *rabi* or *harjins* land and 27 per cent. is rice land: the former is generally of very good quality. Of the total area of the pargana 7,042 acres or 18·13 per cent. are recorded as barren waste, including under this head the area covered with water, roads, sites, buildings and the like; while 6,551

acres or 22·87 per cent. are returned as culturable waste out of cultivation, only 838 acres being land recently thrown out.

The remainder, 25,245 acres or 65 per cent. are under cultivation. The most important harvest is the *kharif*, which covers 62·64 per cent. of the area cultivated in both harvests as against 53·18 per cent. sown with *rabi* crops, 16·12 per cent. being twice cropped within the year. The chief crops grown are rice, sugarcane, small millets and *arhar* in the *kharif*, and barley and gram intermixed with peas in the *rabi*, while there is also some wheat, the area of which appears to be increasing. Generally the area under the *rabi* crops has increased; that under rice is considerably larger than it was in 1873, and that under sugarcane has fallen. Nearly two-thirds of the cultivated area is irrigated, three-quarters of it being served by wells. The number of wells at the settlement was 1,370, and these are all with few exceptions worked either by the lever or by the *charkhi*. There are 3,400 acres watered from tanks and 251 acres which derive their supply from the rivers. The cultivation in the *rabi* land is generally of a very high order; and even where the soil is quite sandy the excellence of the sugarcane and peas is a constant source of admiration.

Kauria forms the south-eastern part of the tract known as the *Palwari* or land of the Palwar Rajputs. The Palwars are a numerous and powerful body; they own the greater part of the land and hold a very large area in their own cultivating possession. Most of the villages contain a few Palwar families, but the bulk of the clan lives in one or other of the eight or ten strongholds of the clan, the chief of these being Shambhupur, Gahji, Tahar Bazidpur and Hansaipur. In some cases they lost their proprietary rights through default in the payment of revenue in the early days of British rule and several villages passed to the Dube Raja of Jaunpur and other speculators. In these villages the Palwars became occupancy tenants and proved themselves refractory and troublesome to a degree. But in the villages they have managed to retain they are good husbandmen and honest landlords, in marked contrast, it is said, to their Brahman neighbours. At the present time Rajputs own 56·59 per cent. of the land in the pargana; and after them come Brahmans with 19·45 per cent., Kayasths

9·37 per cent., Bengali Kayasths 4·95 per cent., and Bhuinhars 4·32 per cent. But there are no large proprietors in the pargana and the bulk of the land is in the hands of numerous proprietary communities, the total number of proprietors recorded at the settlement being 3,175 with an average cultivated holding of 7·95 acres apiece. The 144 villages which the pargana contains are divided into 316 *mahals*, including each separate portion of a complex *mahal*. Of these 26 are held in single and 112 in joint *zamindari*. Of the perfect *pattidari* estates, 66 in number, 62 are *khuntaiti* and only four *bighadam*; while of 97 imperfect *pattidari* estates 82 are *khuntaiti* and 15 are *bighadam*. The chief cultivating castes are Rajputs, Ahirs, Brahmans and Kurmis. Proprietors as such till 11,446 acres or 43·40 per cent. of the holdings area, 44·72 per cent. is in the hands of occupancy tenants and 8·45 per cent. in those of tenants-at-will, the remainder with the exception of only eight acres being rent-free. High caste tenants with 26·46 per cent. of the area pay an incidence of Rs. 4·17 an acre, compared with a rate of Rs. 5·96 paid by low caste tenants who hold 26·71 per cent. The disparity between high-caste and low-caste rents is thus very marked; the rate paid by occupancy tenants is Rs. 4·08 for high caste and Rs. 5·88 for low caste tenants, the corresponding incidences for tenants-at-will being Rs. 4·94 and Rs. 6·27.

The population of Kauria in 1872 was returned at 41,494 persons, the density being 680 persons to the square mile. In 1881 this number had increased to 48,422 and in 1891 to 52,245 persons, the density on the last occasion being no less than 856 persons to the square mile. At the last enumeration in 1901 there were 43,244 inhabitants in the pargana and the density to the square mile had fallen to 709. Of this number 21,562 were females. The population is almost entirely agricultural in character ; there are no large towns in tract nor are there any manufacturers. According to the returns, 33 per cent. of the people were agriculturists pure and simple, while 38 per cent. were recorded under the head of labourers; but the vast majority of the latter, if not all, are engaged in agricultural persuits and do not differ from those enumerated under the head of agriculturists.

The communications of Kauria are adequate to its needs. The

Azamgarh-Fyzabad road cuts across the north-centre and the unmetalled road from Maharajganj unites with this at Koelsa. Besides these, an unmetalled road from Captainganj passes diagonally across the southern portion of the pargana to the tahsil headquarters at Ahraula and serves the whole tract traversed. Altogether Kauria is a well cultivated, well populated pargana, homogeneous both in its soils and its inhabitants.

KOELSA, *Pargana* KAURIA, *Tahsil* MAHUL.

This small village lies on the boundaries of parganas Kauria and Atraulia 26° 15′ N. and 83° 1′ E., on the road from Azamgarh to Fyzabad. It is distant 17 miles from Azamgarh and 10 from the tahsil headquarters at Ahraula, with which it is connected by the unmetalled road which passes through Koelsa from Maharajganj. In 1901 the place had a population of only 376 souls, 229 of these being Hindus, 114 Muhammadans and 33 of other religions. Koelsa is only noticeable as having been the seat of a tahsil establishment up to the time of the Mutiny and as the site of some military operations at that period. There are some sugar refineries in it, a well-attended upper primary school and a post-office. A small market is also held twice a week on Mondays and Fridays.

KOPAGANJ, *Pargana* AND *Tahsil* GHOSI.

The large town of Kopaganj lies in latitude 26° 1′ N. and longitude 83° 33′ E., on the metalled road from Ghazipur to Dohrighat. It is 24 miles distant from Azamgarh, 13 miles from Muhammadabad and six miles from Mau. The branch line of railway from Indora station to Dohrighat runs closely parallel to the metalled road and there is also a railway station of Kopaganj on it. The place is an old one and the original village which was known as Kopa was subsequently included in the present town under the name of Purana Kopa. A Hindi inscription on a stone which is built is over the doorway of a small Hindu temple has the date 1529 *sambat* or 1472 A. D. inscribed on it. The present town, however, owes its existence to Iradat Khan, a Raja of Azamgarh, who founded it about 1745 A. D. and named it

Iradatganj after himself. This name has now fallen into disuse and the place is generally known as Kopaganj. Iradat Khan settled weavers, in it, most of whom he brought from Mau, and merchants, chiefly Agarwala *Banias*, whom he induced to emigrate from various places. A strong fort was thrown up which became a favourite residence of the Rajas; and the town was partly encircled with a high embankment. Thus fostered it developed into a place of some local importance; and although it has considerably declined it is still a large town. There are at the present time about 500 looms in the place and cotton cloth in considerable quantities is woven, the finest products being turban cloths with silk borders. There is also a small saltpetre refinery, and some trade in sugar and grain.

Kopaganj contains a post-office, a large school and ac attle-pound. The population numbered 6,633 souls in 1872, and this fell to 6,301 in 1881. But in 1891 there were 7,988 inhabitants and in 1901 their number still amounted to 7,039, of whom 3,977 were Hindus and 3,062 were Muhammadans, Julahas being the predominant caste. The town has been administered under Act XX of 1856 since the year 1860. The income which is raised by the usual method of assessment under the Act amounts to some Rs. 1,500 yearly, and is expended in the maintenance of a small force of police of 11 men of all grades, a conservancy staff of eight sweepers and in the execution of simple works of improvement in the town. The average number of houses assessed is 632 and the assessment falls at a rate of Rs. 2-5-0 per assessed house. The Village Sanitation Act (U. P. Act II of 1892) is also in force.

LAKHNAUR, *Pargana* NATTHUPUR, *Tahsil* GHOSI.

This large village lies in 26° 8′ N. and 83° 43′ E., on the unmetalled road which leads from Sultanpur Barahgaon to Nagara in Ballia. It is twelve and a half miles distant from Ghosi, the tahsil headquarters, and 38 miles distant from Azamgarh. The village is a large agricultural estate which is permanently settled and is owned by communities of Mals and Misrs. In 1881 the population numbered 3,858 souls and in 1891 the number had increased to 3,963; while at the last enumeration in 1901 there

were 3,954 inhabitants. Of these 3,787 were Hindus, 154 Muhammadans and 13 of other religions. There is a primary school in the village.

LALGANJ, *Pargana* AND *Tahsil* DEOGAON.

The important town and bazar of Lalganj lies in 25° 48′ N. and 82° 58′ E., on the metalled road which branches off the Azamgarh-Jaunpur road at Muhammadpur and leads southwards to Benares. The place is situated in the permanently settled village of Katgarh, which was probably an inhabited *mauza* of old standing. It formerly belonged to Jaunpur and has been included in pargana Deogaon only since 1836. Lalganj, which is the main hamlet of Katghar, is of comparatively recent date, having been founded about 1,760 by Lal Khan, Baluch, who was a resident of Jaunpur and was related to certain Muhammadans who held Katghar in *jagir*. The families of these persons, however, seem to have long lost connection with Katghar-Lalganj which is now held by the Raja of Jaunpur. There is nothing noticeable about the place, but well attended markets are held twice a week on Sundays and Wednesdays; they are the best in the pargana and a considerable business is done in a variety of commodities, but chiefly in grain and cloth. The population in 1901 numbered 2,591 souls, 2,248 of these being Hindus and 343 Muhammadans, and is of a mixed description, partly trading and artizan and partly agricultural. Lalganj contains a primary school and post-office; and the Village Sanitation Act (U. P. Act II of 1892) is in force.

LATGHAT, *Pargana* AND *Tahsil* SAGRI.

This small village lies in 26° 13′ N. and 83° 20′ E., on the banks of the Chhoti Sarju and the metalled road from Azamgarh to Dohrighat, at a distance of 17½ miles from Azamgarh and five and a half from Jianpur. In 1901 it contained a population of 677 persons, 665 being Hindus and 12 Muhammadans. A small market is held every Sunday and Thursday, and there is also a post-office in the place. A small fair is celebrated here on the tenth of the light half of *Kuar*.

LAUHAN, *Pargana* AND *Tahsil* DEOGAON.

A large village in 25° 45′ N. and 83° 3′ E., 24 miles south of Azamgarh and five miles east of Deogaon. The place is only noticeable for its size, the population in 1901 numbering 2,039 persons, of whom 1,934 were Hindus, 102 Musalmans and three of other religions. The population has considerably decreased since 1891 when it numbered 2,595 persons. It contains a lower primary school, but has no bazar.

MADHUBAN, *Pargana* NATTHUPUR, *Tahsil* GHOSI.

This place, which gives its name to a police station, is a hamlet of the large village of Sultanpur Barahgaon, which lies in 26° 10′ N. and 83° 39′ E. The latter is situated at the distance of 38 miles from Azamgarh and 10½ miles from Ghosi, the tahsil headquarters, with which it is connected by an unmetalled road. Other roads run to Surajpur in the north-west, Dubari north-east, and south-eastwards to Nagara in the Ballia district. In 1901 there were 2,875 inhabitants in the place, 2,655 of whom were Hindus and 222 were Musalmans. Rajputs are the numerically strongest caste in the village and are chiefly of the Bisen clan. Besides a police station, Madhuban contains a post-office and cattle-pound ; and market is held three days a week on Tuesdays, Thursdays and Saturdays. Less than a mile to the south of Sultanpur is the large village of Kathghara Shankar where there are both a boys' and a girls' school.

MAHARAJGANJ, *Pargana* GOPALPUR, *Tahsil* SAGRI.

The town of Maharajganj lies in 26° 15′ N. and 83°-5′ E., at a distance of 14 miles from Azamgarh and 15 miles from Jianpur. Two unmetalled roads connect it with the rest of the district, one passing through it on its way from Jianpur to Koelsa and the other joining it with Captainganj on the south. The town is situated in *mauza* Bishanpur on the banks of the Chhoti Sarju. Close to it is a famous old Hindu shrine of Bhairon and Bishanpur has probably long been an inhabited *mauza*. The name Maharajganj however is of comparatively recent origin having been given to it, it is said, by one of the Rajas of Azamgarh. The town does not

at any time appear to have had a large manufacturing population, but to have been rather a town of merchants and brokers. In the middle of last century its trade was very flourishing, and one of its merchants, by name Chetu, was renowned for his wealth throughout all the neighbouring parganas. At the time of the cession in 1801 the trade of the place must have been considerable, for the dues then levied on goods exported from the town and on sales in its markets amounted to a large sum. The trade appears to have been almost entirely in cloth, which, coming from Mau, Mubarakpur and other places, was exported to Lucknow, Farrukhabad and other towns; and the position of the town in an accessible part of the country, close to the borders of the Nawab Wazir's territory, necessarily kept up its trade. But since the manufacture of and trade in native cloths have declined, the trade has necessarily very much decreased.

Maharajganj contains at the present time a police station, post-office, cattle-pound and upper primary school. Markets are held every Sunday and Thursday and are among the best in the district for the variety of the commodities and produce bought and sold. The population in 1881 numbered 2,882 souls, but this figure fell to 2,019 in 1891. In 1901 there was a small recovery and there were 2,192 inhabitants, 1,568 of whom were Hindus and 624 Musalmans. Julahas are the prevailing caste. The town has been administered under Act XX of 1856 once the year 1860. The income which is derived from the usual method of assessment under the Act amounts to some Rs. 500 per annum, and is expended in the maintenance of a small force of four police for watch and ward, and of three sweepers for conservancy, or in simple works of improvement within the town. Some 260 houses are on the average assessed to the tax, the incidence per assessed house being Re. 1-14-6 or Re. 0-3-8 per head of total population.

The shrine of Bhairon is also known as Deotari, and it is alleged by the attendant Brahmans to have been a gate of the ancient city of Ajodhya, from which it is now forty *kos* distant. At this shrine a small fair is held every month on the day of the full moon; but on the tenth day of the light half of *Jeth*, a very much larger fair is celebrated, which is attended by several thousands of people.

MAHUL, *Pargana* AND *Tahsil* MAHUL.

The village of Mahul, which gives its name both to a pargana and tahsil, lies in 26° 8′ N. and 82° 50′ E., on the unmetalled road which leads from Azamgarh to Pawai. The road from Ahraula to Didarganj intersects this road at Mahul, which is six miles distant from the tahsil headquarters at Ahraula and 25 miles west of Azamgarh. Mahul is an old Hindu village, but there is no certain tradition regarding its settlement. Some time in the first half of the eighteenth century, Shamshad Jahan, who was locally known as Raja of Mahul and of whom some account has been given in Chapter III, made the village his chief place of residence. He induced traders and others to settle in it and it attained some little importance. It was specially famous in the neighbourhood for the skill of its goldsmiths. When the Raja of Mahul's principality was broken up, the little town became the headquarters of the Nawab Wazir's *amil* in the Mahul district, and from the time of the cession till about 1870, when the tahsil establishment was removed to Ahraula, it was the headquarters of a tahsil. The place is now one of no importance. Its population which at the censuses of 1881 and 1891 numbered over 1,900 persons fell to 1,584 in 1901, 800 of the number being Musalmans, 776 Hindus and eight of other religions. Kalwars are the numerically strongest Hindu caste. The place however contains a vernacular secondary school and a post-office; and a small market is held on Mondays and Fridays.

MAHUL *Pargana, Tahsil* MAHUL.

The pargana of Mahul is a broad strip of country lying along the western border of the district. On the north it is bounded by Fyzabad and on the west by Jaunpur, while a projecting corner of Sultanpur touches it between the two. At its north-east corner, close to Ahraula, which is the headquarters of the tahsil, it touches parganas Atraulia and Kauria, the Tons river forming the dividing line. On the east lie parganas Deogaon and Nizamabad. The total area of the tract, according to the returns of 1907-08, is

168,243 acres or 263 square miles. Several small rivers and streams cross Mahul. Practically all the drainage flows towards the south-east, and, in addition to the Tons, the Majhui and its tributary, the Lungri, the Kunwar and the Besu, there is a number of long, narrow depressions or lines of small connected swamps which carry of the water in the same direction. The Majhui for ten or twelve miles of its course separates the pargana from Fyzabad. The Kunwar river flows nearly through the centre and forms a rough dividing line between the southern and the northern tracts, the former being composed for the most part of rice land and wide expenses of *usar*, and the latter consisting of high and closely cultivated land the greater part of which is devoted to spring crops. The northern tract is subdivided into *tappas* Pawai, on the west, and Mahul, on the east; and the southern tract into *tappas* Didarganj and Atharha, the former comprising a large block of land lying between *tappa* Atharha and the Kunwar river, adjoining the district of Jaunpur, and the latter occupying the south and south-east of the pargana on the boundaries of parganas Deogaon and Nizamabad. Both portion of the pargana contain a large number of shallow *jhils* ; but these are more numerous in the south than in the north. In the latter direction the soil is for the most part a sandy loam, interspersed with patches of usary clay ; while in the south clay predominates, the clay being a dark, heavy soil of great fertility and the *rabi* lands of a heavier and richer loam than in the tract north of the Kunwar. The waste lands of the north grow extensive patches of *dhak* jungle, many villages deriving considerable incomes from the sale of the wood to the sugar-refiners of Phulpur and Shahganj, and groves are numerous. But in the south the country wears a somewhat bare and depressing appearance, especially after the *rabi* crops have been cut, owing to the rarity of groves and the stunted nature of such patches of jungle as are to be found scattered here and there on the *usar* plains. Two small villages belonging to the pargana lie detached in Fyzabad a short distance from the topmost corner, and three blocks of land belonging to that district are situated in the middle of Mahul.

Of the total area of the pargana, 36,699 acres or 21·81 per cent. were in 1907-08 classed as barren. This includes 11,573 acres covered with water and 4,385 acres occupied by roads, sites, buildings and the like, the remainder or 20,741 acres being barren land unfit for cultivation. The culturable area on the same occasion amounted to 37,906 acres or 22·53 per cent., of which 23,655 acres were culturable waste. The remainder of the pargana, 93,638 acres or 55·66 per cent., was in that year under the plough. The system of cultivation does not differ from that which prevails in other parganas of the district. The area irrigated in 1907-08 was 48,126 acres or nearly 52 per cent of that cultivated, and of this about 88 per cent. was dependent on wells. The *kharif* is the principle harvest and covered in the same year 68,505 acres as against 38,623 acres sown in the *rabi* season, 15,644 acres or 16·7 per cent. of the net cultivation being land which bore two crops in the year. The principal crops grown in the autumn are rice, which occupies above two-thirds of the entire harvest, sugarcane, *arhar*, the small millets and maize; while in the *rabi*, barley, alone or in combination, covers over half the area, the other crops being gram intermixed with peas and wheat, alone or in combination with other crops. The *zaid* or extra harvest is insignificant in area. Altogether some 60 per cent. of the cultivated area is *rabi* or *harjins* land, and 40 per cent. is rice land.

Pargana Mahul contains 519 villages, of which fifteen, with am area of nearly four squar e miles, are permanently settled. The latter all lie in the west of the pargana, close to the Jaunpur border. There are 504 temporarily settled estates which a t the time of the settlement in 1904 were divided into 963 *mahals*, including each separate portion of the complex *mahals*. Of these 163 were held in single and 558 in joint *zamindari* tenure; 60 were perfect *pattidari khuntaiti* ; and of the 182 imperfect *pattidari* estates, 177 were *khuntaiti* and five were *bighadam*. The permanently settled villages were divided into two single and five joitn *zamindari* , one perfect *pattidari khuntaiti*, and 13 imperfect *pattidari khuntaiti*, *mahals*. Musalmans own the largest area in proprietary right, and after them come Rajputs, Brahmans and Bhuinhars. Of the Musalman estates the chief are those of Mittu-

pur and Ambari. The former consists of seven villages in *tappa* Pawai, two in *tappa* Atharha and one in *tappa* Didarganj, and is owned by Mir Abu Jafar who resides in Mittupur and has also a *taluqdari* estate of considerable extent in the district of Fyzabad. The Ambari estate consists of two *mahals*, Ambari and Alampur, and includes 13 villages in *tappa* Mahul. It is owned by a resident Saiyid family of old standing; while a considerable amount of property formerly owned by them in Jaunpur has now been sold. Eleven villages, ten in *tappa* Atharha and one in Didarganj, belong to the Raja of Jaunpur and are at present under the Court of Wards. These are assessed to a demand of Rs. 13,248 and are remarkable for the number, strength and refractory nature of the Bhuinhar tenants. The Misr Brahmans of Rampur Khalis own seven whole villages and parts of four or five others in *tappa* Pawai ; and a family of Kachhwaha Rajputs holds the Palthi estate, containing eight villages in *tappa* Didarganj. The Bhuinhars, like the Zamindaras, are in large communities ; and the only other estates owned by Hindus that deserve mention are those of Mahadeo Prasad, Bania of Azamgarh; the Khattris of Mittupur; and Musammat Sartaji Kunwar of Laggupur. European proprietors hold 5 per cent. of the pargana and their property comprises the two well-known estates of Shamsabad and Khurasan. Both are Mutiny grants, the former being now held by relatives of Mr. N. P. Dunne, the original grantee, and the latter being in the hands of Mr. T. A. Martin, a son of the original grantee. The Shamsabad grant consists of 15 villages in *tappa* Mahul; and the Khurasan estate comprises nine villages, seven in *tappa* Mahul and two in *tappa* Atharha. The chief cultivating castes are Ahirs, Zamindaras, Rajputs, Brahmans, Chamars and Bhuinhars. In 1907-08 proprietors as such held 30 per cent. of the holdings area, occupancy and ex-proprietary tenantsp 52 er cent. and tenants-at-will 17 per cent. The general incidence of the rental at the recent settlement fell at a rate of Rs. 5·71 per acre in tenants' land. High caste occupancy tenants paid Rs. 4·66 an acre as against Rs. 6·25 paid by low-caste tenants of similar standing, the corresponding rates for non-occupancy tenants being Rs. 5·23 and Rs. 6·32. The fluctuations of population in pargana Mahul have

been similar to those in other parganas. In 1872 the people numbered 1,50,371 souls, the density being 572 persons to the square mile. This figure rose to 1,67,698 in 1881 and to 1,89,593 in 1891, the resultant density in the latter year being 721 persons to the square mile. At the last enumeration in 1901 there were 171,081 inhabitants or 650 persons to the square mile. Of this number 85,239 were females. Classified according to religion, there were 142,295 Hindus, 2,877 Musalmans and 610 persons of other religions. Practically the entire population is dependent for its livelihood on agriculture or the trade in agricultural produce.

There is one town in the pargana, namely, Phulpur, which is, administered under Act XX of 1856; and the only other large village is Mahul. The latter contains an old fort and was for many years the seat of a petty Raja. The last Raja, Iradat Jahan, was executed for rebellion at the Mutiny and his estates were confiscated. The Saiyid families of Ambari, Chamawan and Pawai are all closely connected with the family of the old Raja of Mahul. Phulpur is a market town of some size on the banks of the Kunwar river, and is inhabited chiefly by Kalwars, Banias and shop-keepers, and market gardeners, and contains a number of sugar refineries. The pargana is very well supplied with means of communication, though the unmetalled roads are very poor where they pass over the powdery *usar* soil. The Jaunpur-Fyzabad branch of the Oudh and Rohilkhand Railway and the metalled road connecting those two places pass through a few villages in the extreme west, while the Azamgarh-Shahganj branch of the Bengal and North-Western Railway cuts across the pargana from east to west. Close to the latter runs the metalled road from Azamgarh to Shahganj, an important market town only two miles beyond the district border. An unmetalled road leads from Rani Sarai through Nizamabad to Phulpur, and is continued through Mahul to Pawai, where it meets another road which runs from a small station above Shahganj to the Fyzabad district. There are two long roads both starting from Ahraula and passing through the pargana from north to south towards Jaunpur, one partly metalled by way of Mahul and Didarganj and the other by way of Phulpur. The roadsl eading from Didarganj to Bardah and to Sarai Mir complete the list of the pargana communications.

MAHUL *Tahsil.*

The tahsil of Mahul or Ahraula forms the western and north-western portion of the Azamgarh district. It lies between the parallels of 25° 48′ and 26° 27′ north latitude and 82° 40′ and 83° 7′ east longitude, and is bounded on the north-west by the district of Fyzabad, on the west and south by the districts of Sultanpur and Jaunpur, and on the last by the tahsils of Sagri, Nizamabad and Deogaon of this district. It comprises the parganas of Atraulia, Kauria and Mahul, and has a total area of 2,78,949 acres or 436 square miles.

The physical features of the tract have been sufficiently set forth in the separate articles dealing with the parganas that compose the tahsil, and need only be briefly recapitulated here. If any shape can be assigned to the tahsil, it is that of two triangles, pargana Mahul forming one and parganas Kauria and Atraulia the other. Pargana Mahul is intersected by the Gangi, Besu, Mangai, Kunwar, Ungri, Majhui and Tons; but only the Kunwar, Majhui and Tons may be dignified with the name of rivers as they alone flow within deep and well defined channels. The remaining four are merely claims of swamps, in which the water is kept at an artificial level by embankments. The only other river is the Chhoti Sarju which flows across the north of Atraulia. The Kunwar river may be taken as the rough dividing line between the tracts with different soil characteristics. South of this stream the soil is for the most part clay, and even where loam crops up it is of a much stiffer character than in the north. North of the Kunwar the soil is chiefly a light loam with a varying admixture of sand, and in parganas Atraulia and Kauria there are numbers of long winding *jhils* which generally end in *nalas*. Of the total area of the tahsil, 63,957 acres or 22·94 per cent. are recorded as barren waste unfit for cultivation, including the area, 7·33 per cent., which is covered with water and that, 2·85 per cent., which is occupied by roads, buildings and the like. There are 54,477 acres, forming 19·53 per cent. of the tahsil, which are returned as culturable waste fit for or out of cultivation ; but 3·43 per cent. of this is land recently thrown out, 36 per cent. is under preparation for sugarcane, and 2·07 per cent. is occupied by groves, leaving 13·67 per cent. for old fallow and culturable waste. The

cultivated area amounts to 160,485 acres or 57·53 per cent. of the total area and of this 95,002 acres or 59·20 per cent. are irrigated, wells serving 50,728 acres or 53·40 per cent. and the remainder being watered from tanks, *jhils* and rivers. The *kharif* is the principle harvest in Mahul and covers 111,564 acres as against 82,805 sown in the *rabi*. In the autumn 60·48 per cent. of the area is devoted to rice, a higher percentage than in any other tahsil of the district; and the only other important crops are sugarcane, 12·31 per cent., maize, 5·17 per cent., *mandua*, 3·69 per cent., and indigo, 3·14 per cent., In the *rabi*, barley, alone or in combination with gram, covers 38·04 per cent. of the area sown in this harvest, peas, 21·14 per cent., and barley intermixed with peas, 10·41 per cent. Wheat alone occupies but 6·60 per cent., and wheat intermixed with gram or barley 13·56 per cent. The area of land cropped more than once in the year is 33,999 acres or 21·99 per cent. of the net cultivation.

Mahul contains 947 villages and two towns, and the number of *mahals* into which these are divided has been already given in the pargana articles. There too will be found details regarding the chief proprietary and cultivating castes. In 1872 the population was returned at 273,126 persons, ; this number rose to 312,146 in 1881 and to 344,723 in 1891. At the last enumeration in 1901, however, there was a decline of 10·41 per cent. and the inhabitants were found to have decreased to 312,234 of whom 157,128 were women. Classified according to religion, there were 274,720 Hindus, 37,445 Musalmans, 57 Sikhs, 7 Christians and 5 Aryas. The predominant Hindu castes are Chamars, 57,250 ; Ahirs, 46,364; Brahmans, 27,312; Bhars, 19,691; Rajputs, 16,441; Kewats, 12,213 ; and Koeris, 11,616. Other castes occuring in number exceeding 2,000 apiece were Banias, Kahars, Kumhars, Kurmis, Lohars, Lunias, Kalwars, Telis, Nais, Bhuinhars, Kayasths, Dhobis and Barais. The Musalmans are chiefly Sheikhs, Julahas, Pathans and Behnas. The only towns in the tahsil are Atraulia and Phulpur, and there are few places of any commercial importance, though there are many small bazars. The people are almost wholly agricultural, and there is no industry of any note save sugar refining.

The tahsil is on the whole well provided with means of communication. A branch of the Bengal and North-Western Railway runs across the centre of the tahsil, between Phulpur and Shahganj, the latter being a market town in the Jaunpur district. Close to this runs a metalled road, the only metalled road in the tahsil. In the north, the road from Azamgarh to Fyzabad passes through parganas Kauria and Atraulia, and there is an extensive system of unmetalled roads connecting all places of importance. Three, namely those from Atraulia, Maharajganj and Captainganj, join at Ahraula; and from Ahraula roads lead off to Didarganj, this being metalled as far as the railway, and Jaunpur. The roads from Phulpur and Sarai Mir pass from east to west across the pargana to Kheta Sarai and Pawai; and Didarganj is connected with Bardah in Deogaon by another road. The position of all these roads may be seen from the map, while the lists of post offices, markets, schools and fairs will be found in the appendix.

The tahsil forms a subdivision in the charge of a full powered officer on the district staff for criminal and revenue purposes. Original civil jurisdiction is vested in the munsif of Azamgarh. There are police stations at Atraulia, Ahraula, Pawai and Didarganj, but their circles do not make up the whole area, some villages falling within the circles of Maharajganj and Bardah.

MANGRAWAN, *Pargana* AND *Tahsil* NIZAMABAD.

This large village lies a mile and a half east of the metalled road to Benares in 25° 55′ N. and 83° 1′ E. and close to the unmetalled road which leads past Mehnagar to Belha. It is 15 miles distant from the headquarters of the district. The place is only noticeable for its size. Population has increased from 2,149 in 1881 and 2,224 in 1891 to 2,516 in 1901. Of the latter 1,383 were Musalmans and 1,133 Hindus. The village is owned by a large community of Zamindaras or Rautaras who are resident in it. The village contains a primary school, and the Village Sanitation Act (U. P. Act II of 1892) is in force in it.

MAUNATH BHANJAN or MAU, *Pargana* MAUNATH BHANJAN, *Tahsil* MUHAMMADABAD.

Maunath Bhanjan, the capital of the little pargana of the same name lies in 25° 57′ N. and 83° 34′ E. on the right bank of the Tons river ; and is situated in *mauzas* Sarai Lakhansi, Khalisa, Uttartola and Dakhlim-tola, Sarhu and Jahangirabad. A metalled road connects it with Muhammadabad and Azamgarh, from which it is 13 and 25 miles distant respectively. It is on the Benares-Bhatni section of the Bengal and North-Western Railway and a branch line takes off at this point which passes through Azamgarh to Shahganj.

Mau is a place of greater antiquity than Azamgarh, but no satisfactory tradition regarding its original settlement is forthcoming. One local tradition says that Malik Tahir, whose tomb is still preserved in the town, settled in it and, having driven out a demon that troubled it, left a memorial of his deed in the name by which the place became known, Maunath Bhanjan meaning, 'lands of the expeller of the demon.' Maliks still reside in Mau, but none of them appear to be able to prove connection with Malik Tahir. In the *Ain-i-Akbari*, Mau is said to be held by Sheikhs and to be famous, along with Jalalabad and Benares, among the towns of the *subah* of Ilahabas for the manufacture of certain kinds of cotton cloth. The pargana officers of the imperial government had their headquarters in the town and a *qazi* resided in it. In the historian Budaoni, Muhammadabad, now the headquarters of the tahsil, is described as a dependency of or subordinate to Qasba Mau. During the reign of Shahjahan the pargana was assigned in *jagir* to Jahan Ara Begam, the emperor's daughter, and the town received the name of Jahanabad. A *katra* or market-place was erected by the Begam's order, and in her time, as well as in the reign of Aurangzeb, the town appears to have enjoyed the special regard of those in power. It then contained 84 *muhallas* and 360 mosques. A large proportion of the population was composed of Musalman weavers, Hindu thread spinners (*katuas*) and traders. A great manufacturing industry in cotton cloth was carried on, and the establishment of a customs house, at least in later days, for the collection

of transit duties, indicates that there was a considerable amount of traffic passing into or through the town. The collector of Gorakhpur, who took over charge of the place from the *amil* of the Oudh government in 1801, reported that, whereas the town of Maunath Bhanjan had formerly been a place of great trade, resorted to by merchants from all parts of India, its trade had very much decayed of late years. It has never recovered its former prosperity, but further decline was stayed during the first decades of British rule. A commercial resident for Mau and Azamgarh was appointed in 1802 ; and in addition to the ordinary country traffic, investments in Mau cloths, particularly in the kind of long cloth known as *sahan*, were for many years made on behalf of the East India Company. Private enterprise for a time kept up the trade of Mau after the abolition of the Company's monopoly, but the introduction of English made thread and cloth gave a great blow to it. Since the opening of the railway, however, trade has to some extent revived and fewer weavers leave the town to seek employment in the mills of Bombay, Cawnpore and Calcutta. Some account of the cloth industry has already been given in Chapter II.

The population of Mau has steadily increased during the last forty years. In 1872 there were only 11,315 inhabitants in the place. In 1881 the number had increased to 14,945 and in 1891 to 15,547. At the last enumeration in 1901 the population was returned at 17,696, of whom 8,942 were females. Classified according to religion there were 9,497 Musalmans, 8,182 Hindus and 17 persons of other religions. As might be expected Julahas are numerous. These people are of an obstinate and fanatical nature, and there is always a considerable amount of friction between them and the Hindus, which results from time to time in rioting of a serious description. The *katuas* or Hindu thread spinners claim to have been Bais Rajputs and to have come to Mau from Bheri Tal in Gorakhpur, having first settled at Ghosi on their way. They form a distinct caste and though they have not entirely abandoned their hereditary pursuits, they now live chiefly by shop-keeping and petty trading.

Mau was administered under the provisions of Act XX of 1856

from the year 1860 until 1908. The income which was derived by the usual method of assessment under the Act amounted on an average to Rs. 3,000 a year and was expended in the up-keep of a force of town police, the maintenance of a conservancy staff and the execution of simple works of improvement in the town. From April 1st, 1908, however, Mau became a notified area under United Provinces Act I of 1900. Its affairs are now administered by a committee of four members, of which the tahsildar of Muhammadabad is the president. The income is derived from a tax on persons carrying on trade, owning property or practising a profession within the limits of the town, according to their circumstances and property, and is supplemented by miscellaneous receipts such as *tahbazari* dues, fines and slaughter-house fees. From this income are maintained a conservancy staff consisting of an inspector and 34 men and a slaughter-house inspecting staff. The watch and ward of the town is provided for by a force of 22 men of all grades, who are maintained by the Government, their quarters alone being provided and kept in repair by the committee. The rest of the expenditure is on improvements within the town. The four members of the committee form a magisterial bench invested with third class criminal powers for the trial of offences committed within the boundaries of the local police station. Mau contains a police station, cattle-pound, combined post and telegraph office, branch dispensary, encamping ground and inspection bungalow. The educational establishments include a vernacular secondary school with a primary branch, a mission school belonging to the Church Missionary Society, two girl's schools, one of which is attended mostly by Julaha girls and the other by Hindus, and several aided primary schools. The place is, moreover, now an important railway junction and is the headquarters of an engineer, a district traffic superintendent and a locomotive superintendent of the Bengal and North-Western Railway.

MAUNATH BHANJAN *Pargana*, *Tahsil* MUHAMMADABAD.

This small pargana lies in the south-east of the Muhammadabad tahsil, completely surrounded by the lands of pargana Mu-

hammadabad, the villages which compose it being closely grouped round the town of Mau. The Tons river, which is joined a few miles above the town by the Chhoti Sarju, runs first through the east centre of the pargana and then along its eastern border and receives all the drainage of the tract. Along its banks is a considerable area of *kachhar* land, covering in all some six square miles of country. The river flows in a deep channel and except in seasons of heavy flood rapidly drains the land lying along its banks. The soil of the upland or *bangar* portion is for the most part clay, but along the Tons and in many places on the edge of the *kachhar* there is much very sandy land. The general appearance of the pargana is decidedly dreary. There is less woodland than in other parts of the district and such jungle as is to be seen consists usually of scrub or small *dhak* trees. Practically all the land of any value to the cultivator has already been brought under the plough and the rest consists of barren ravine land or *reh* infected plots. On the other hand there is a considerable area of highly cultivated land in the immediate vicinity of Mau town.

The total area of the pargana was returned in 1907-08 as 14,366 acres or 22·4 square miles. Of this 2,244 acres or 15·62 per cent. were recorded barren waste unfit for cultivation, including under this head the area covered with water, 704 acres, and that occupied by sites, roads and the like, 956 acres. An additional 3,503 acres or 24·39 per cent. were returned as culturable waste out of cultivation, of which 611 acres were occupied by groves and 417 acres were land recently thrown out of cultivation. In the same year there were 8,619 acres or 59·99 per cent. of the total area under the plough. The system of cultivation does not differ from that in vogue in other parganas. Classified according the distinctions recognised at the settlement 93 74 per cent. of the land was *rabi* or *harjins* land and 6·26 per cent. was rice land. The *kharif* is the most important harvest covering normally some 62·88 per cent. of the area cultivated in both harvests as against 56·08 per cent. occupied by the *rabi*, while owing to the presence of a large town population the *zaid* or extra harvest is somewhat larger than in other parganas : 20·61 per cent. of the cultivated area is twice cropped in the year. Sixty per

cent. of the cultivated area is normally irrigated, just two-thirds of this being served by wells and the remainder being watered from tanks, *jhils* and rivers. The chief crops grown are rice, *arhar*, sugarcane and maize in the *kharif*, and barley, alone or in combination, gram and peas intermixed and wheat, in combination with barley or gram, in the *rabi*. The proportion of the cropped area devoted to wheat has somewhat increased especially in the villages round the town of Mau, while the areas under sugarcane, indigo and poppy have decreased.

There are 52 villages in the pargana, one of which is permanently settled. The fifty-one temporarily settled villages were divided at the recent settlement into 85 *mahals*, counting separately each portion of a complex *mahal* in each village into which it extends. Of these *mahals* 20 were held in single and 22 in joint *zamindari* tenure; while of the 19 perfect *pattidari* estates all except one were *khuntaiti*. There were 24 imperfect *pattidari mahals*, 22 being *khuntaiti* and 2 *bighadam*. Rajputs are the chief proprietary caste, owning no less than 54 per cent. of the total area of the pargana. After then come Khattris, 15·52 per cent.; Bhuinhars, 14·90 per cent.; and Musalmans, 6·55 per cent. The Rajput landlords belong to a large number of different clans, but there are no large single proprietors among them; and many of the Bhuinhar clans possess names which suggest close relationship with the Rajputs. The Khattriṣ are represented by the heirs of Durga Prasad of Gorakhpur. The chief cultivating castes are Koeris, Ahirs, Rajputs, Chamars and Brahmans. Proprietors as such cultivate 35·47 per cent. of the holdings area, occupancy and ex-proprietary tenants 44·58 per cent. and tenants-at-will 18·73 per cent. the remainder being grain-rented or rent-free. High-caste tenants with 21·03 per cent. of the holdings area pay a rental incidence of Rs. 4·54 per acre, compared with a rate of Rs. 6·22 paid by low-caste tenants who hold 40·79 per cant. There is a very marked difference between the rates paid by high-caste and low-caste tenants irrespective of their status; for whereas high-caste occupancy tenants pay a rate of Rs. 4·09 per acre, low-caste tenants pay one of Rs. 6·13, the corresponding figures for tenants-at-will being Rs. 4·99 and Rs. 6·31.

Mau is a rare instance, for this district, of a pargana shewing a continuous rise in population. In 1872 there were 19,326 inhabitants, the density being 869 persons per square mile. The population increased to 24,943 persons in 1881, to 27,624 in 1891 and in 1901 numbered 28,608, the resultant density on the last occasion being 1,286 persons to the square mile. The increase between 1891 and 1901 appears to have been due chiefly to the growth in the population of the town, and the remarkably high incidence per square mile is due to the small area of the pargana compared with the large size of the town itself. Many of the inhabitants of the town gain their livelihood by occupations other than agriculture, the chief of course being weaving. According to the census returns over 34 per cent. of the population of the pargana were classed as artizans, while only some 30 per cent. were returned as agriculturists. Even if to the latter be added 14 per cent. on account of labourers, the agricultural population only amounts to some 45 per cent. of the whole. There is no large town or village in the pargana besides Mau.

The pargana is traversed from north-west to south-east by the road which leads from Azamgarh to Zahurabad in Ghazipur. This is metalled as far as Mau and unmetalled from that point onward. No village is very far from this road. The metalled road from Ghazipur to Dohrighat also cuts across the pargana, passing through the town from South to North; so that the communications of the pargana are admirable. All produce finds a ready market too in the town of Mau.

MEHNAGAR, *Pargana* BELA DAULATABAD, *Tahsil* DEOGAON.

This large village lies in 25° 53′ N. and 83° 5′ E. on the unmetalled road which leads from Muhammadpur or Ramjit Patti on the Jaunpur-Azamgarh road to Belha. It is distant 21 miles by road from the district headquarters. The place is noticeable as the original seat in this district of the Gautam Rajputs from whom sprang the Rajas of Azamgarh. There are in it the ruins of a fort surrounded by a high masonry wall, which was built about the beginning of the 17th century by Raja Harbans who founded the fortunes of the house. But after the foundation of Azamgarh, Mehnagar ceas-

ed to be the Rajas' chief place of residence. The large irrigation embankment in the neighbourhood of the place is also said to have been the work of Raja Harbans; it is known as the *Hari bandh.* A large mausoleum which is preserved as a monument exists in Mehnagar, in which several members of the family of the Rajas lie burried. In 1881 the population of Mehnagar numbered 3,338 persons, and this rose to 3,451 in 1891. At the last enumeration in 1901 however there were only 3,008 inhabitants of whom 2,122 were Hindus and 886 Musalmans. The village contains a police station, post office, cattle-pound and an upper primary school. A small market is held every Tuesday and Saturday.

MEHNAJPUR, *Pargana* AND *Tahsil* DEOGAON.

Mehnajpur lies in the extreme south of the district in 25° 41′ N. and 83° 5′ E., on the unmetalled road with starts from Bardah on the Azamgarh-Jaunpur road and passes through Deogaon onwards to Tarwah and Chiriakot. It is ten miles east of Deogaon and 28 miles in a direct line from Azamgarh. In 1901 the village had a population of 1,414 persons, of whom 1,304 were Hindus and 110 were Musalmans, Market is held once a week on Saturdays, and there is a branch post office in the place. The village lies in *tappa* Kuba and about two miles to the east is Kuba Khas, the old stronghold of the Bais Rajputs. Mehnajpur derives its name from one Khwaja Minhaj who is said to have held the surrounding country before the Bais Rajputs came to it. Their ancestor, Main Pardeo, took service with Khwaja Minhaj and succeeded to his estates at his death. Khwaja Minhaj's tomb is still preserved at Mehnajpur by the Bais Rajputs; and it was to mark their connection with him that the progenitors of the clan are said to have adopted the Muhammadan fashion of fastening the breast flap of their coats on the left side. It has a vernacular secondary school.

MUBARAKPUR, *Pargana* AND *Tahsil* MUHAMMADABAD.

The town of Mubarakpur lies in 26° 6′ N. and 83° 18′ E., 8 miles to the north-east of Azamgarh, with which it is connected by an unmetalled road, and is situated in the revenue *mauzas* of Mubarakpur Khas, Sikti Shah, Muhammadpur and Amlau. Little is known of the early history of the town. It is said to have been

formerly named Qasimabad and to have fallen into decay before it was resettled, in the name of Raja Mubarak, a Sufi of Manikpur Karra, by an ancestor of the present Sheikh landholders. Under its new name the place probably acquired importance, but no references are made to it in the Muhammadan historians. At the cession it was a flourishing place and was described in official correspondence as having a population of from 10,000 to 12,000 persons, of whom about one-fourth were Muhammadan weavers, while some were also wealthy Hindu traders. At the present day the wealth and business of the Hindu traders have much declined, but the weaving trade seems to have fallen off less in Mubarakpur than in other places in the district. Common coarse cotton cloths are still woven in large quantities, but the speciality of the place is satin and satinette, in which cotton and silk are cunningly intermixed. The number of looms is computed at about 1,700. There is also a small industry in sugar refining.

The population of Mubarakpur has steadily increased. In 1872 there were 12,937 inhabitants. This number rose to 13,157 in 1881 and to 14,372 in 1891. At the last enumeration in 1901 there were 15,433 inhabitants, of whom 11,442 were Muhammadans and 3,991 were Hindus. The Muhammadans consist for the most part of fanatical and clannish Julahas, and the fire of religious animosity between them and the Hindus of the town and neighbourhood is always smouldering. Serious comflicts have occurred between the two from time to time, notably in 1813, 1842 and 1904. The features of all these disturbances are similar, so that a description of what took place on the first occasion will suffice to indicate their character. In 1813 a petty dispute about the inclosing within the grounds of a Hindu temple of a little piece of land near a Muhammadan *takia* platform was followed first by the slaughter on the spot of a cow by the Muhammadans and then by the defiling of the platform and of a neighbouring *imambara* with pig's blood by the Hindus. The Muhammadans retaliated by cruelly murdering a wealthy Hindu merchant of the place named Rikhai Sahu, by plundering and burning his house and by defacing a handsome temple which he had erected. Here-

upon the whole Hindu population of the vicinity rose and a sanguinary battle ensued in which the Muhammadans were overpowered after many had been killed and wounded on both sides. The inhabitants of the town fled and the place was given up to plunder for some days till a magistrate arrived with troops from Gorakhpur and restored order. Similar disturbances occurred in 1893-94 and punitive police were quartered on the town for several months.

The provisions of Act XX of 1856 were extended to Mubarakpur on February 29th, 1860. The income raised from the usual assessment amounted on an average to Rs. 2,150 every year and was expended in the maintenance of a force of town police and a staff of sweepers and in works of improvement. On April 1st, 1907, Mubarakpur was constituted a notified area under U.P. Act I of 1900. Its affairs are now managed by a small committee, consisting of the tahsildar of Muhammadabad as president and four citizens of the town as members. Income is derived mainly from a tax on persons carrying on a trade, practising a profession or owning property in the town ; but it is supplemented by miscellaneous receipts such as slaughter-house fees and fines. The income is expended in the maintenance of a conservancy staff, a force of 20 police of all grades, in works of improvement in the town and grants-in-aid to education. The four non-official members of the committee constitute a magisterial bench invested with third class criminal powers for the trial of offences committed within the limits of the local police station. The town contains a police station, an upper primary school, and combined post and telegraph office. Markets are held twice a week, Sundays and Thursdays in Mubarakpur itself, and Mondays and Thursdays in the *katra* at Amlau. The chief fair is the *Sohbat*, a Muhammadan fair, on the first Thursday in *Baisakh*.

MUHAMMADABAD, *Pargana* AND *Tahsil* MUHAMMADABAD.

The headquarters town of tahsil is situated in 26° 2′ N. and 82° 24′ E., on the banks of the Tons river at a distance of 12 miles from Azamgarh. The town has a station of the same name on the Shahganj-Mau branch of the Bengal and North-Western Railway and lies on the metalled road from Azamgarh to Mau. Unmetalled roads connect it with Mubarakpur, Jianpur, Ghosi, Kopaganj and Chiriakot.

Muhammadabad Gohna as the town is called is, with its suburbs, spread over lands belonging to seven *mauzas*, all except one namely Zamin Daramadpur being held by the Saiyids and Sheikhs who are the leading people in the place. Its site appears to have been long occupied as a settlement; for the Singhel Rajputs of *tappa* Kayar have a tradition that it was once occupied by their ancestors. A tank in the envirous, known as *thakurahi*, is said to have been dug by the orders of the wife of one of the Singhel chief. The place has been undoubtedly held by Muhammadans since the early part of the 15th century. It, however, never became specially famous and the only reference to it in the historians is the record of its occupation by Ali Quli Khan, Khan Zaman, during his rebellion against Akbar. Under the native governments pargana officers and a *qazi* were stationed in the town. At the present time the population is of a mixed kind, both Hindu and Muhammadans, and consists of petty traders, shop-keepers weavers and other artizans in addition to agriculturists. There are about 300 looms in the place and also a few sugar refineries. The population has decreased of late years. In 1881 there were 9,154 inhabitants and this number rose to 9,560 in 1891. At the last enumeration in 1901 the people numbered 8,775 souls, 5,157 being Muhammadans, 2,889 Hindus and 729 of other religions, chiefly converted Sikhs. The town is the seat of a munsifi, the jurisdiction of which extends over tahsils Muhammadabad, Sagri and Ghosi, a police station, cattle-pound, post-office and vernacular secondary school. Markets are held every Wednesday and Saturday. Muhammadabad has been administered under Act XX of 1856 since the year 1864. The income which is raised by the usual house-tax, amounts annually to Rs. 1,600 on an average, and is expended in the usual way on maintaining a small force of town police and a small staff of sweepers for conservancy, as well as in the execution of petty works of improvement in the town. There are normally 620 houses assessed to the tax, which falls at a rate of Rs. 2-9-7 on each assessed house.

MUHAMMADABAD *Pargana*, *Tahsil* MUHAMMADABAD.

Muhammadabad is a large pargana stretching from within a

couple of miles of Azamgarh town to the south-eastern border of the district. It is bounded on the north by parganas Sagri and Ghosi, on the west by Nizamabad, on the south-west by Qariat Mittu and Chiriakot, and on the south and east by the districts of Ghazipur and Ballia. The total area of the pargana as now constituted is 1,52,462 acres or 238 square miles. The whole tract is drained towards the south-east by means of the Tons and Bhainsahi rivers. The former flows north-east after leaving Azamgarh and for a number of miles it forms the boundary between Muhammadabad and Sagri; it then turns south-eastwards forming the boundary with pargana Ghosi, till it unites with the Chhoti Sarju not far from the town of Mau. For 30 miles or more the Bhainsahi river flows along the south-western and southern border, forming the boundary first with pargana Chiriakot and then with the district of Ghazipur, and the shallow depressions and lines of swamps which cross the large stretches of rice land in the southern half of the pargana empty themselves into this stream or its tributary the Larni. The drainage, however, is a very slow process, and after heavy rains vast areas are under water. The Tons on the other hand flows in a deep channel and, except in cases of unusually heavy flood, rapidly drains the land lying along its banks. The greater part of the soil is clay, but along the Tons and in a few other places there is much sandy soil. The most striking feature of the pargana is its dreariness. There is very little grove land, and such jungle as there is to be seen consists usually of scrub or small *dhak* trees. Almost all the land of any value has been taken up by the agriculturist, and the rest consists of *reh*-infected plains, the monotony of which is broken only by occasional stunted trees. Nevertheless the soil is generally fertile, the surface of the country is level, water lies at an easy depth below the surface, wells and tanks are both numerous and good, and the people are both skillful and industrious husbandmen. Of the total area of the pargana 29,475 acres or 19·33 per cent. were closed as barren waste in 1907-08. This includes 8,860 acres covered with water and 5,152 acres occupied by sites, roads, buildings and the like ; but as much as 15,643 acres are barren land unfit for cultivation. The culturable

area out of cultivation in the same year amounted to 32,928 acres or 21·59 per cent., 13,813 acres being waste land in which cultivation is possible, and there were 90,059 acres or 59·08 per cent. under the plough. The system of cultivation is much the same as that pursued in the great southern division of the district. In 1907-08 the irrigated area was 49,120 acres or 54·59 per cent. of that cultivated—a high proportion; and of this above 88 per cent. was served by wells, there being in that year no less than 3,528 masonry and 1,687 non-masonry wells at work. The *kharif* is the principal harvest and occupied in the same year 65,422 acres as compared with 39,896 acres sown in the *rabi*, the *dofasli* or twice-cropped area being 15,426 acres or 17 per cent. of the net cultivation. The chief crops grown in the autumn are rice, *arhar*, sugarcane, the small millets and maize; while in the spring barley, alone or combined with gram and wheat, and gram intermixed with peas cover most of the area sown in the harvest. As usual the *zaid* or extra harvest covers a very small area. Pargana Muhammadabad now contains 595 villages, which are divided into 1,468 *mahals*, 22 villages and 35 *mahals* being permanently settled. Of the temporarily settled *mahals* 226 are held in single and 526 in joint zamindari tenure; while of the perfect *pattidari* estates 156 are *khuntaiti* and 31 *bighadam*. There are 494 imperfect *pattidari mahals*, 416 being *khuntaiti* and 78 *bighadam*. The corresponding figures for the permanently settled estates are 17 joint *zamindari*; one perfect *pattidari khuntaiti*; and 17 imperfect *pattidari*, 10 being *khuntaiti* and 7 *bighadam*. Musalmans own the largest area as proprietors, but are closely followed by Rajputs; while after them come Bhuinhars, Banias and Brahmans. But these castes are mainly scattered in large cultivating communities and there are no large proprietors among them. The largest individual estates are owned by Europeans. That of Kajha consists of 24 whole villages and shares in 15 or 16 others and belongs to the Misses Sturmer; while that of Bagli-Pinjra comprises nine villages and is now being managed on behalf of the legatees of the late Mr. C. Hudson of Azamgarh, pending the result of litigation in the civil courts. The chief cultivating castes are Rajputs, Ahirs, Chamars, Brahmans, Koeris

and Bhars, the general incidence on tenants' land at the settlement in 1905 being Rs. 5·33 per acre. High caste occupancy tenants paid Rs. 4·25 an acre in the temporarily settled villages compared with a rate of Rs. 5·79 paid by their brethren of low-caste, the corresponding rates for tenants-at-will being Rs. 5·67 and Rs. 6·17. In 1907-08 proprietors as such cultivated 38 per cent., occupancy and ex-proprietary tenants 47 per cent., and tenants-at-will 14 per cent. of the holdings area. There have been considerable fluctuations in the population during the last forty years; but the figures necessary relate to the pargana as it was constituted before *tappas* Nandwa and Nasrullahpur were transferred to Ghosi. Thus in 1872 there were 2,02,509 inhabitants, the density being 693 persons to the square mile. This rose to 2,38,442 in 1881 and to 2,62,146 in 1891, the density on the latter occasion being 897 persons to the square mile. At the last enumeration in 1901 the population numbered 2,21,346 souls or 757 persons to the square mile, of whom 1,11,566 were females. Classified according to religion there were 1,77,151 Hindus, 43,433 Muhammadans, and 762 persons of other religions. The majority of the people are dependent for their livelihood on agriculture or the trade in agricultural produce, the only industry well represented being that of cotton-weaving.

The only towns in the pargana are Mubarakpur and Muhammadabad, the former of which is now a notified area under United Provinces Act I of 1900 and the latter is administered under the provisions of Act XX of 1856. Besides these there are few places of note or importance. Walidpur with a population of 5,085 is by far the largest village; but the rest are for the most part quite small, the average area being but 269 acres. The communications of the pargana are good. The Mau-Shahganj branch of the Bengal and North-Western Railway passes right through the pargana, and the Bhatni-Benares section runs along the south. The former is closely followed by the metalled road connecting Mau with Azamgarh and not far from the latter is the metalled road from Mau to Ghazipur. Unmetalled roads connect Mau and Chiriakot, Chiriakot and Muhammadabad, Muhammadabad and Azamgarh by way of Mubarakpur, and

Muhammadabad and Azamgarh. Besides these, two roads lead from the headquarters of the pargana to Ghosi and Kopaganj respectively.

Up till 1904, pargana Muhammadabad contained 736 villages distributed over ten *tappas*, namely, Auqaf, Bahrozpur, Chhittpur, Haveli, Kayar, Khanpur, Pardaha, Walidpur, Nandwa and Nasrullahpur; but in that year the two last *tappas*, comprising 141 villages, 69 in Nandwa and 72 Nasrullahpur, were transferred tothe pargana ofGhosi, the Tons river being taken as the dividing line.

MUHAMMADABAD *Tahsil*.

Muhammadabad is the south-eastern tahsil of the Azamgarh district, comprising the parganas of Qariat Mittu, Chiriakot, Maunath Bhanjan and Muhammadabad, and lies between 25° 48′ and 26 °8′ N. and 83° 4′ and 83° 40′ E. It has a total area of 228,587 acres or 357·5 square miles.

The physical features of the tract have been set forth in detail in the various articles on the parganas which compose it. The whole of the tahsil as now constituted belongs to the great southern division of the district and consists of lowlying land interspersed with large swamps and *reh*-infected patches which stand on a slightly higher level. The soil is for the most part a stiff clay and the natural deficiency of woodland and trees makes the scenery exceedingly dreary. Patches of *dhak* and scrub jungle are found scattered about the tahsil, especially along the banks of the Tons and Mangai, but these are small in extent and of little value. In the vicinity of the rivers the soil is frequently sandy and in pargana Mau there is a considerable area of *kachhar* land. The main stream in the tract is the Tons which now forms the boundary with tahsils Sagri and Ghosi. The Mangai which rises in Nizamabad forms the south-western border of parganas Qariat Mittu and Chiriakot; and the country between is drained by the Bhainsahi *nala* and its tributaries. The latter all rise in chains of swamps in the heart of pargana Muhammadabad, but the Bhainsahi is the largest and after flowing past Chiriakot and Kajha passes along the district boundary in a westerly direction till it leaves the tahsil four miles from the Chhoti Sarju. The

swamps dry up wholly or in part between October and June, but during the rainy season they spread out into large temporary lakes.

Of the total area of the tahsil, 52,497 acres or 22 per cent. are recorded as barren land unfit for cultivation ; and under this head are included 15,809 acres of land covered with water and 7,320 acres occupied by sites, roads and the like. The culturable land out of cultivation amounts to 52,107 acres, an additional 22 per cent., and includes 4,008 acres covered with groves, 21,584 acres of old fallow and 16,785 acres of land recently thrown out. There are 1,23,983 acres, making nearly 55 per cent. of the total area, under the plough ; and of this 74,449 acres or nearly 60 per cent. are irrigated. Wells constitute the chief source of supply, serving 43,317 acres, and the rest is watered from tanks, *jhils* and rivers. The *kharif* is the principal harvest and covers 98,046 acres, as against 70,719 acres sown with *rabi*. The chief crops grown are rice which covers nearly 55 per cent. of the total area sown in the autumn, and sugarcane which occupies 13 per cent ; while in the *rabi* barley, alone or in combination, covers 44 per cent. and gram intermixed with peas an additional 40 per cent. Less than, 6,500 acres of wheat are grown, either alone or combined with other staples. Twenty-five per cent. or 30,362 acres are twice-cropped within the year. The details regarding *mahals* and tenures have been already given in the pargana articles. There too will be found particulars regarding the chief proprietary and cultivating castes, and it is unnecessary to recapitulate them here.

In 1904 a large tract of country lying in the north-east of pargana Muhammadabad comprising *tappas* Nandwa and Nasrullahpur or 71 square miles in all was transferred from this tahsil to the newly constituted tahsil of Ghosi. It is consequently impossible to give the details of population for the tract as it is at present constituted, and those for Muhammadabad tahsil as it stood before the recent changes are alone available. The population in 1872 stood at 2,75,559, and in 1881 the number had risen to 327,017. In 1891 there was a further increase to 359,746, but at the last enumeration in 1901 the figure had fallen to 306,870 ; allowing for the recent changes, is it now 251,796. Classified according to

religion there were 2,46,253 Hindus, 59,794 Musalmans, 729 Sikhs, 51 Christians and 42 Aryas. The predominant Hindu castes are Chamars, 47,063 ; Ahirs, 36,089 ; Rajputs, 24,925 ; Lunias, 18,997 ; Brahmans, 17,142 ; Bhars, 16,901 ; and Koeris, 13,404. Other castes occuring in numbers exceeding 2,000 are Bhuinhars, Banias, Telis, Kahars, Lohars, Kumhars, Pasis, Mallahs, Dhobis, Kalwars and Kayasths. The Musalmans are chiefly Julahas, 30,881, Sheikhs, 6,845, and Pathans, 4,198, others of importance being Rajputs, Behnas, Nais, Faqirs and Kuneras.

Muhammadabad tahsil is very well supplied with means of communication. The Shahganj branch of the Bengal and North-Western Railway traverses it along the centre and Mau is an important junction. Close to the railway runs the metalled road from Azamgarh to Mau, and this is continued as an unmetalled road beyond Mau to Zahurabad in Ghazipur. The Azamgarh-Ghazipur metalled road traverses parganas Qariat Mittu and Chiriakot. The latter place is connected by unmetalled roads with both Muhammadabad and Mau ; and from Muhammadabad several roads radiate north and north-east. The tahsil contains in Mau, Mubarakpur and Muhammadabad three of the largest and most important towns in the district ; and there is a large number of local markets and bazars. Lists of the post offices, schools, fairs and markets will be found in the appendix.

For criminal and revenue purposes the tahsil forms a sub-division in charge of a full powered officer on the district staff. Original civil jurisdiction is vested in the munsif of Muhammadabad who holds his court at the headquarters of the tahsil. For police purposes there are stations at Mau, Mubarakpur, Chiriakot and Muhammadabad ; but their circles do not comprise the whole area, as several villages are included in that of Azamgarh.

NATTHUPUR *Pargana, Tahsil* GHOSI.

The pargana of Natthupur lies on the right bank of the Ghagra river in the north-east corner of the district. In shape it is a rough quadrilateral ; the western border marches with that of pargana Ghosi; on the north lies the Ghagra river; and on the south and east is

pargana Sikandarpur of the district of Ballia. Its total area is 82,163 acres or 128 square miles.

Natthupur is divided into *banjar* and *kachhar* portions of almost equal area, the former occupying the south and south-west and the latter the remainder of the tract, most of it being fairly close to the river. This portion has suffered greatly at various times from the action of the Ghagra, and an attempt has been made, by means of an embankment running for several miles close to the south bank of the stream, to save the land from floods. The chief feature of the tract is the Ratoi Tal, a large lake about the centre of the pargana. This is now much shallower than it was formerly, and a large area which at one time grew nothing beyond *boron* rice is now sufficiently high and dry for ordinary spring crops. Along the Ghagra there are here and there sparse stretches of tamarisk, occasionally harbouring wild pig; but apart from these physical features are conspicuous by their absence. The prevailing soil, both in the *bangar* and in the *kachhar*, is the light and sandy loam known as *balsundar*. There is in the southern portion of the former a certain amount of *usar* and clay, but the area is inconsiderable. The Pharai *nala*, a small stream, flows along the southern border and drains the lower part of the *bangar*: it divides Natthupur from Ballia and finds its way ultimately into the Ghagra. Besides this the only drainage channel is a small *nala* which flows from the west and carries water during the rains from the Pakri-Pewa lake to Ratoi Tal. The latter drains a large extent of land, both *bangar* and *kachhar*, and empties itself when full through an outlet into the Ghagra. Of the total area of the pargana 16,379 acres or 19·93 per cent. are classified as barren waste, and 19,290 acres or 23·47 per cent. as culturable land fit for but out of cultivation. The former includes no less than 11,935 acres covered with water, while in the latter class the largest item is that of old fallow which amounts to 8,552 acres. The cultivated area in 1907-08 amounted to 46,494 acres or 56·60 per cent. of the whole. The system of cultivation does not differ from that found elsewhere in the district. About 86 per cent. of the soil is *rabi* or *harjins* land and the remainder is rice land; the irrigated area in 1907-08 was 21,837 acres or nearly 47

per cent. of that cultivated, 94 per cent. of it being served by wells. In the same year there were 1,213 masonry and 981 non-masonry wells at work in the pargana, a very much smaller number than in Ghosi. But owing to the sandy nature of the soil in many places, wells are very expensive to construct; and generally their number is insufficient to adequately protect the cultivated land. The *kharif* is the principal harvest, and in 1907-08 it occupied 29,302 acres as against 26,859 sown in the *rabi*. The *zaid* or extra harvest is as usual utterly insignificant in area; but 9,889 acres or 21·28 per cent. of the net cultivation is twice cropped in the year. The chief crops grown in the autumn are, as usual, rice, *arhar*, sugarcane, small millets and maize; while in the spring barley, alone or in combination, and peas take the lead.

Natthupur contains 521 villages, out of which 102, with an area of some 76 square miles, are permanently settled. The latter lie for the most part in the north-east corner but there is a number of such villages, either singly or in small clusters, scattered all over the pargana. The permanently settled villages are divided into 173 *mahals*, of which 15 are in the hands of single *zamindars*; 78 owned in joint *zamindari*; and 80 held *pattidari*. Of the latter 23 are perfect *pattidari* and 57 imperfect *pattidari khuntaiti*. Similarly the 419 temporarily settled villages comprise 366 *mahals*. Of the latter 26 are in the hands of single *zamindars* and 179 are held in joint *zamindari*. Of the perfect *pattidari* estates 34 are *khuntaiti* and one *bighadam*; and of the imperfect *pattidari* estates 117 are *khuntaiti* and 9 are *bighadam*. The total number of proprietors in the pargana at the recent settlement was 3,330, of whom 2,271 lived in the tract which came under assessment and 641 in the permanently settled villages, the remainder living outside. The average share of cultivated land per head amounted to 7·1 acres, a similar proportion to that found in Sagri, Kauria and Belhabans. The chief proprietary castes are Brahmans, Rajputs, Musalmans and Kurmis; but there is not any large landholder among them. Brahmans hold a larger proportion of the land in this pargana than in any other, the most important tribe represented being Misrs. The Kurmis, who are known

as Mals, are an important body, but their communities are much overgrown and are not always prosperous. Among the Musalmans the only important communities are the Sheikhs of Bibipur and Sipat. The Rajputs are not of much importance. They are chiefly Kakans but there are numbers of Kausiks and Chandels also. The cultivating body is chiefly composed of Ahirs, Brahmans, Rajputs and Chamars. Proprietors as such in 1907-08 cultivated 29 per cent. of the land, occupancy and ex-proprietary tenants 37 per cent and tenants-at-will 33 per cent., the remainder being grain rented or rent-free. The general incidence of the rental of all tenants in the temporarily settled villages at the settlement of 1906 was Rs. 5·27 per acre. High caste occupancy tenants paid Rs. 4·13 an acre as against Rs. 5·75 paid by low-caste tenants, while for tenants-at-will the rates were Rs. 4·84 in the case of high-caste and Rs. 5·64 in the case of low-caste tenants.

The population of Natthupur in 1872 was returned at 67,953 persons, the density being 529 persons to the square mile. The number rose to 93,193 in 1881, when the density was 726 persons per square mile, but fell to 85,961 in 1891. At the last enumeration in 1901 there were 85,095 inhabitants in the pargana, of whom 44,070 were females, the resultant density being 663 persons to the square mile. Thus Natthupur differs from the rest of the district in that there was a marked decrease in population between 1881 and 1891, whereas elsewhere the decrease took place between 1891 and 1901. Classified according to religion there were 75,869 Hindus, 9,118 Musalmans and 108 persons of other religions. Practically the entire population derives its livelihood from agriculture or the trade in agriculture produce ; for there are no manufactures of any importance in the pargana. There is no town in the pargana ; but there are several very large villages of which Dubari is the biggest. Markets are held at Dargah, Dubari, Madhuban, Fatehpur Maraon, Adampur, Parsupur, Sipat, Ibrahimabad, Lakhnaur and several other places. The first four act as distributing centres for cloth, and articles of metal also are imported and sold at Dubari. Sugar is refined in most places and exported to Benares and Cawnpore, and there is some trade in grain with Gorakhpur.

The communications of the pargana are on the whole poor. The railway does not touch it and there is no metalled road in it. On the other hand all the villages are within reasonable distance of the Bhatni-Benares and Dohrighat sections of the railway which bring them within a day's journey of Azamgarh. The unmetalled roads run from Dohrighat by way of Surajpur to Nagara in Ballia, and from Surajpur and Madhuban to Ghosi. The pargana is not divided into *tappas*, but different parts of it are known by local names. Thus the *kachhar* land is sometimes spoken of as *kankwal*, and parts of the *bangar* are known as the *kakan*, the *malan* and the *misran* after the castes that prevail in them. It does not form a separate subdivision for any but assessment purposes and is now combined with the pargana of Ghosi to form the Ghosi tahsil.

NIZAMABAD, *Pargana* AND *Tahsil* NIZAMABAD.

The town of Nizamabad which gives its name both to a pargana and tahsil lies in 26° 3′ N. and 83° 1′ E., on the banks of the river Tons. It is 8 miles west from Azamgarh, with which, as with Sarai Rani, Phulpur and Captainganj, it is connected by unmetalled roads. The town is a straggling place situated in *mauzas* Qasba Nizamabad, Ghurepur, Farahabad, Telipur and Teghipur. It is an old town and is said to have been a Hindu settlement before the Muhammadan occupation of the country. According to local tradition its present name was derived from Sheikh Nizam-ud-din, a saint, whose tomb is pointed out in the town. None of the resident families, however, trace back their descent to him, but the Sheikhs of Barauna in pargana Mahul are reputed to be his descendants. The only references to the place in the Muhammadan historians record the facts that Saiyid Ashraf Jahangir in one of his wanderings passed near Nizamabad; and that in 1565 A. D. the emperor Akbar, when returning from the pursuit of Ali Quli Khan, encamped at or near the town and held his birthday festival in it. Under the Mughals a *qazi* and pargana officers were stationed in the town; but at the present day the place has a decayed appearance. Its decadence is said to date from the year 1763 A. D. when Jahan Khan, Raja of Azamgarh,

was killed near the town in a struggle with an officer of the Nawab Wazir who had been sent to collect revenue, and the town was looted by the Nawab's troops.

The population of Nizamabad amounted in 1901 to 4,476 persons, of whom 2,727 were Hindus, 1,588 Musalmans and 161 of other religions, apparently Sikhs. The latter are recruited chiefly from Kayasths, who form an important portion of the population. They own the village and considerable property elsewhere, and the office of *qanungo* is hereditary in the family. The residents of the town are mostly agriculturists and petty traders; but there are also some looms and a few sugar refineries in it. The place has some celebrity for its pottery of which an account has been given in Chapter II. Weekly markets are held on Mondays and Thursdays.

Nizamabad contains a police station, vernacular secondary school, post-office and cattle-pound. The Village Sanitation Act (U. P. Act II of 1892) is also in force.

NIZAMABAD, *Pargana* AND *Tahsil.*

The tahsil of Nizamabad or Azamgarh is conterminous with the pargana of Nizamabad and lies between 25° 53′ and 26° 12′ N. and 82° 52′ and 83° 16′ E. It is bounded on the west and north-west by tahsil Mahul, on the north by Sagri, on the west by Muhammadabad, and on the south by Deogaon; and it is the only tahsil of the district which does not anywhere debouch on the district boundary. The total area, as returned at the survey in 1900-01, was 200,434 acres or 313 square miles.

The slope of the pargana is from north-west to south-east, like that of the district generally. It is drained in the south by the Mangai and in the north by the Tons and its tributaries. The former rises in pargana Mahul on the western boundary of the district in a line of swamps, and in the western part of Nizamabad it has scarcely emerged from the initial stage of swamp; but towards the east it begins to flow in a more defined channel, though this is never much below the level of the surrounding country. The most important tributary of the Tons ...

and joins the Tons near the town of Nizamabad. The only other two important tributaries are the Silani and Suksui, which are small streams and unite with the Tons a little to the east of Azamgarh. These like the Tons and Kunwar flow between high banks. The pargana is sharply divided into two well-defined tracts. The southern portion, comprising an area of 126 square miles, is a low lying clay tract that closely resembles the pargana of Deogaon. This tract is drained by the Mangai and much of it is covered with water in the monsoon. Large *jhils* and *usar* plains are numerous; and a considerable part of the cultivated area is, as in Deogaon, fit for growing rice only. The nothern portion on the other hand is high lying, well drained land, the soil of which is for the most part a sandy loam locally known as *balsundara*; and the area of rice land is comparatively small. The agricultural circumstances of these two tracts are consequently quite distinct. Of the total area of the tahsil 36,364 acres or 18·20 per cent. are classed as barren waste unfit for cultivation, including under this head land which is covered with water or occupied by sites, roads, buildings and the like. There are 35,469 acres, an additional 17·69 per cent., which are recorded as culturable waste out of cultivation, but only 3,689 acres of this are new fallow, and there are 4,812 acres occupied by groves. The remainder of the area, 128,501 acres or 64·11 per cent., is under cultivation.

For settlement purposes the tahsil was divided into two circles, the southern circle being known as *khalar* and the northern as *bangar*. The system of cultivation in these somewhat differs. In the *khalar* it is similar to that of pargana Deogaon and need not be again described. In the *bangar* the proportion of cultivation is higher and a very large part of it is secured by irrigation from wells, while in the *khalar* the irrigated area is little more than half that cultivated and of this the greater part is watered from tanks, *jhils* and rivers. Over the whole pargana 79,887 acres or 39·86 per cent. of the total area are irrigated, wells serving 53,654 acres as against 26,237 acres watered from other sources. The principal harvest is the *kharif* which occupies 61·13 per cent. of the area cultivated as against 56·50 per cent. sown with *rabi*, 28,339 acres or 18·10 per cent. being twice cropped in the year. Rice, sugar-

cane, *mandua*, *arhar* and maize are the main autumn staples, the rice area being very large in the *khalar* circle; while in the *rabi* barley, alone or in combination, occupies the bulk of the area sown and is followed by gram and peas intermixed and wheat in combination with gram and barley or alone. At the recent settlement there were 4,836 wells recorded. The vast majority of these are half-masonry and are made of burnt bricks cemented with mud, but there are also some earthen wells. Practically the whole of the *rabi* land in the *khalar* circle and all but the very sandy land in the *bangar* circle is normally irrigated; and in the former tract, although most of the area is watered from tanks, the area watered from wells can be greatly extended in time of need and but little *rabi* land need be left unsown. The rice land on the other hand is practically all dependent on the season and in a year of drought its sources of irrigation entirely fail.

There are now 931 villages in Nizamabad. Complex *mahals* are relatively few ; but if each portion of a complex *mahal* in each village through which it extends is counted as a separate *mahal*, there are at present 1,949 *mahals* in the tahsil. Of this number no less than 1,069 are held in joint *zamindari*, while 219 more are held in single *zamindari*. The perfect *pattidari* estates are divided into 169 *khuntaiti* and 8 *bighadam* ; and the imperfect *pattidari* estates into 448 *khuntaiti* and 36 *bighadam*. The total number of individuals who hold land in the pargana is computed at 13,828, each having an average cultivated holding of 9·3 acres, but there are several large proprietors among whom the Raja of Jaunpur, the Sidhari Babus, the Kayasths of Nizamabad, the Sheikhs of Sarai Mir and the Qazis of Nizamabad may be mentioned. Musalmans own as much as 41·8 per cent. of the whole tahsil, 19·4 per cent. belonging to Zamindaras, a laborious and prosperous class of men. Rajputs and Bhuinhars each hold over 16 per cent. of the tahsil ; and after them come Brahmans, 7·5 per cent.; Khattris and Banias, 6·2 per cent.; and Kayasths, 5 per cent. The chief cultivating castes are Ahirs, Zamindaras, Brahmans, Chamars, Rajputs and Lunias. Proprietors as such cultivate 37·5 per cent., occupancy and ex-proprietary

tenants 49 per cent., and tenants-at-will 8·7 per cent. of the area. There are 3,099 acres grain rented and less than one per cent. is rent free, the former being generally very inferior land. High caste occupancy tenants with 11·9 per cent. of the holdings area pay a rent rate of Rs. 4·70 per acre as compared with Rs. 5·75 paid by low-caste tenants, the corresponding rates for tenants-at-will,being Rs. 5·67 in the case of high-castes and Rs. 5·99 in the case of low-castes.

Population has shown the same fluctuations as in most of the other parganas of the district. In 1872 there were 243,216 inhabitants, the density being 777 persons to the square mile. In 1881 the number had risen to 278,611 and in 1891 there was a further increase to 289,488, the density being 925 persons to the square mile. At the last enumeration in 1901 the population numbered 264,114 persons of whom 134,533 were females, and the density was 844 persons to the square mile. Classified according to religion there were 211,185 Hindus, 52,395 Muhammadans, 379 Sikhs, 119 Christians, 29 Aryas and 7 Jains. The predominant Hindu castes were Ahirs, 50,372; Chamars, 46,011; and Brahmans, 11,631; but no other caste exceeded 10,000 in number. The castes who numbered more than 2,000 members apiece were Koeris, Rajputs, Banias, Kahars, Kurmis, Lunias, Bhars, Kumhars, Lohars, Telis, Kewats, Pasis, Kayasths, Kalwars and Barhais. The Musalmans are chiefly Sheikhs, 17,975, Julahas, 9,412, and Pathans, 9,312. Other well represented divisions were Saiyids, Behnas, Faqirs, Hajjams and Qassabs. The population is practically wholly agricultural in character. According to the returns of the census 57·7 per cent. of the people were agriculturists pure and simple, and an additional 15·3 per cent. were labourers, most of whom are engaged in agricultural persuits.

The pargana is well supplied with means of communication. The Shahganj branch of the Bengal and North-Western Railway runs across the pargana from east to west and has stations at Azamgarh, Sarai Rani, Phariha and Sarai Mir. The provincial road from Jaunpur to Dohrighat traverses the pargana a little east of the centre, and from this, at Sarai Rani, takes off the metalled

road to Shahganj. Portions of the metalled roads to Benares and Azamgarh also pass through the south of pargana. Of the unmetalled roads the chief is that which runs westwards from Azamgarh to Phulpur through Nizamabad; and there is another which starting at Muhammadpur on the Jaunpur road runs due north through Nizamabad to Captainganj. The only portion of the pargana which is not served with roads is the north-western portion. The town of Azamgarh, the district headquarters, is situated in the north-east, and there are important towns and villages at Sarai Mir, Nizamabad, Phariha, Sarai Rani and Ranjit Patti. Lists of the schools, post-offices, markets and fairs of the tahsil will be found in the appendix.

The pargana is locally divided into eight *tappas*, Athaisi, Dayalpur, Dubaitha, Guzara, Harbanspur, Kotha, Nandaon and Phariha, and although these are of no importance for fiscal purposes, they are useful for the arrangement of the numerous villages. For criminal and revenue purposes the tahsil forms a subdivision which is in the charge of a full powered officer on the district staff, the other criminal courts being those of the tahsildar and the bench of honorary magistrates, whose jurisdiction extends to the whole tahsil. Original civil jurisdiction is vested in the munsif of Azamgarh. For police purposes there are stations at Azamgarh, Nizamabad and Gambhirpur; but their circles do not cover the whole area, for some villages fall into the circles of Ahraula and Kandhrapur.

PALIA, *Pargana* AND *Tahsil* MUHAMMADABAD.

This large village lies in 25° 56′ N. and 83° 24′ E., close to the unmetalled road which leads from Chiriakot to Mau: it is distant 8 miles from Muhammadabad and 20 miles from Azamgarh. The village is a large agricultural estate which is held by a numerous body of Rajputs. In 1881 it had a population of 2,347 persons and the number rose to 2,484 in 1891; but at the last census there were 2,127 inhabitants, of whom 1,895 were Hindus and 232 were Musalmans. The village contains a lower primary school, but is otherwise a place of no special importance.

PAWAI, *Pargana* AND *Tahsil* MAHUL.

Pawai lies in the extreme west of the district at a distance of 30 miles from Azamgarh and 11 miles from the tahsil headquarters at Ahraula. An unmetalled road connects it with Azamgarh *via* Phulpur, and it is situated in 26° 10′ N. and 82° 45′ E. The population has steadily though slowly fallen since 1881 and in 1901 amounted to 994 persons, of whom 674 were Hindus and 320 were Musalmans. The original inhabitants are said to have been Rajbhars who were ousted from their possessions by the ancestors of the present Saiyid occupants, and to the Bhars is attributed a large mud fort, the remains of which still exist. Pawai contains a police station, cattle-pound, post-office and upper primary school ; and a small market is held every Monday and Friday.

PHARIHA, *Pargana* AND *Tahsil* NIZAMABAD.

This large village is situated in 26° N. and 82° 59′ E., on the metalled road from Azamgarh to Shahganj, at a distance of 11 miles from the district headquarters. It also gives its name to a railway station on the Shahganj branch of the Bengal and North-Western Railway. The village is owned by a numerous body of Zamindars who are generally well-to-do and in 1901 it had a total population of 2,145 persons, the number having little changed since 1881. Of the total 1,192 were Musalmans and 953 were Hindus, while Chamars were the numerically strongest Hindu caste. The village contains a primary school, and the Village Sanitation Act (U. P. Act II of 1892) is in force.

PHULPUR, *Pargana* AND *Tahsil* MAHUL.

This town lies 22 miles west of Azamgarh and 8 miles south of the tahsil headquarters at Ahraula, in 26° 4′ N. and 82° 53′ E. The Bengal and North-Western Railway passes close to the town and the metalled road to Shahganj run through it, while there are unmetalled roads to Nizamabad and Pawai. Phulpur is famous for its sugar, which is very granular and sweet, partly owing to superior methods of refining and partly owing to the better character of the cane grown in the neighbourhood. The town is also a well-known market, bazaar being held every Tuesday and Saturday,

but it is not a market of very old standing, having been founded about 1733 A. D. by the Rajas of Mahul. The population of the town has increased from 2,305 in 1881 to 2,557 in 1901; of the latter number 1,864 were Hindus and 963 were Musalmans. The town has been administered under Act XX of 1856 since the year 1860. The income which is derived from the usual assessment under the Act averages some Rs. 500 yearly and is expended in the usual way on the maintenance of a small police force and conservancy staff. Some 225 houses are usually assessed to the tax, which falls at a rate of Rs. 2-4-7 on each assessed house and Re. 0-3-2 per head of population. There is a lower primary school, an inspection bungalow and a post-office in the town; and the Village Sanitation Act (U. P. Act II of 1892) is in force.

QARIAT MITTU, *Pargana, Tahsil* MUHAMMADABAD.

The pargana of Qariat Mittu lies in the west of the Mummadabad tahsil, pargana Muhammadabad lying on the north, Chiriakot on the east, Belhabans on the south, and Bela-Daulatabad and Nizamabad on the west. It is a small pargana with a total area of only 14,847 acres or 23¼ square miles; and its physical characteristics are those of the southern division of the district. It is drained by the line of *jhils* which lie along its northern limit or issue from the Gambirban lake and eventually become the Bhainsahi *nala*; while a narrow strip of country on the south discharges its surface water into the Mangai *nala* which separates Qariat Mittu from Belhabans. The prevailing soil of the pargana is clay but some loam is to be found along the Mangai. The proportion of rice land is large, amounting to 48·85 per cent. of the cultivated area as compared with 51·15 per cent. *rabi* or *harjins* land. Of the total area of the pargana 5,236 acres or 35·27 per cent. are recorded barren, while 2,496 acres or 16·81 per cent. are culturable land out of cultivation; of the latter figure but 106 acres are occupied by groves and 988 acres only are land recently thrown out of cultivation. The remainder of the pargana, 7,115 acres or 47·92 per cent., were cultivated in the year of survey and settlement (1904), the area being somewhat below the average. The system of cultivation does not differ in any respect from that found elsewhere.

The *kharif* is by far the most important harvest covering 5,673 acres or 79·73 per cent. of the cultivated area as against 3,183 or 44·74 per cent. in the *rabi*. There are 1,751 acres or 24·61 per cent. of the cultivation which are twice cropped in the year. The *zaid* or extra harvest is insignificant in area. The irrigated area is 3,730 acres or over 52 per cent. of that cultivated, about two-thirds being dependent on wells and the remainder on tanks, swamps and rivers. The chief crops grown are as usual rice, 3,449 acres, sugarcane 588 acres, *arhar* 355 and maize 348 acres; while in the *rabi* there are 1,569 acres under barley, alone or in combination, and 1,336 under gram intermixed with peas. The area under sugarcane has fallen considerably of late years and has been replaced by spring crops.

Qariat Mittu contains 68 villages which are divided into 163 *mahals*. Of the latter 12 are held in single and 95 in joint *zamindari*, while 18 are perfect *pattidari khuntaiti*. There are 38 imperfect *pattidari* estates, all but two being *khuntaiti*. Rajputs are the chief land holding caste. They retain 51·45 per cent. of the whole area of the pargana, and are followed by Brahmans, 18·83 per cent., Bhuinhars, 12·14 and Banias 10·53 per cent. There are no large proprietors in the pargana, and the number of co-sharers is 1,532, each having an average cultivated holding of 5·2 acres. The chief cultivating castes are Rajputs, Bhuinhars, Brahmans, Ahirs and Chamars. Proprietors as such cultivate 45·81 per cent. of the holdings area, occupancy and ex-proprietary tenants 42·04 per cent. and tenants-at-will 6·70 per cent. There are 366 acres or 4·40 per cent.—a somewhat high proportion—grain rented and 79 acres rent free. High caste tenants hold 25·63 per cent. of the area and pay a rent-rate of Rs. 4·33 per acre for the land they fill in occupancy right and a rate of Rs. 5·36 for that which they hold as tenants-at-will, the corresponding rents for low caste tenants being Rs. 5·59 and Rs. 6·05.

The population of Qariat Mittu numbered 11,380 souls in 1872 and the figure rose to 13,075 in 1881 and 14,746 in 1891, the density on the last occasion being 641 persons to the square mile. In 1901 it was ascertained that there were but 11,168 inhabitants, or 486 persons to the square mile, of whom 5,540

were females. Practically the entire population is agricultural or devoted to agriculture. According to the census returns, 5,223 were agriculturists pure and simple, while 3,199 were recorded under the head of labourers. No pargana has suffered so much in population as Qariat Mittu. Its density is the lowest in the district and it is the only pargana in which the present population is lower than in 1872. There are no towns in the pargana and the largest village is Mittupur with a population of 1,618 souls. Nor has it good communications. The metalled road to Ghazipur cuts across the north of it, but there is no other road in it. Locally the pargana is divided into two *tappas*, known as Amdahi and Tari.

RANIPUR RAJMAU, *Pargana* AND *Tahsil* NIZAMABAD.

This is a large village with many scattered sites and hamlets lying in the angle between the Azamgarh-Jaunpur and Azamgarh-Benares roads, at the point where they diverge. It stands in 25° 26′ N. and 82° 58′ E., and is only noticeable for its size. The population rose from 2,326 persons in 1881 to 2,744 persons in 1891, but fell again to 2,386 souls in 1901. The latter number was divided between 2,274 Hindus and 112 Musalmans, and Koris were the numerically strongest Hindu caste. The Village Sanitation Act (U. P. Act II of 1892) is in force.

RASULPUR, *Pargana* NATTHUPUR, *Tahsil* GHOSI.

The village, which is also known as Rampur, lies in the extreme east of the district in 26° 7′ N. and 83° 48′ E., at a distance of 40 miles from Azamgarh. In 1891 it had a population of 2,567 souls, but in 1901 the number had decreased to 2,445. Of this 1,286 were Hindus, 1,095 were Musalmans and 64 were of other religions, the numerically strongest caste being that of Sheikhs. The village contains a branch post-office and a primary school; and markets are held on Mondays and Thursdays.

RAUNAPAR, *Pargana* AND *Tahsil* SAGRI.

Raunapar lies on a branch of the river Ghagra in the extreme north of the district, in 26° 16′ N. and 83° 18′ E. It is 18 miles

distant from Azamgarh by the unmetalled road running through Bilariaganj, and 10 miles distant from the tahsil headquarters at Jianpur, with which it is also connected by an unmetalled road. In 1901 the place had a population of 2,536 souls, 2,376 being Hindus and 160 Musalmans. There are a police station, post-office, cattle-pound and upper primary school in the village.

SAGRI *Pargana, Tahsil* SAGRI.

Sagri is a large pargana, roughly square in shape, lying in the north centre of the district. It is bounded on the north by the Ghagra which divides both the pargana and the district from Gorakhpur. On the east lies pargana Ghosi, and on the south pargana Muhammadabad; while Nizamabad adjoins it on the south-west and Gopalpur on the north-west. In 1904 a number of villages which had been left to the south of the stream by the shifting of the Ghagra river was added to Sagri and increased its area from 147,650 to 163,855 acres or 246 square miles. The pargana is divided into a *bangar* and *kachhar* tract. The former, which occupies 145 square miles, lies in the centre and south of the pargana and belongs to the same formation as the main body of the district; while the latter which covers the rest of the pargana is the new alluvial land in the valleys of the Ghagra and Chhoti Sarju, and forms a broad strip of country along the whole length of the northern face of the pargana, extending, on the east, in a south-easterly direction along the course of the Chhoti Sarju towards Mau. The drainage of the *bangar* tract flows in a south-easterly direction into the Tons, which forms the pargana boundary from the south-centre to the south-east corner. Its main affluents are the Silani on the south-west, the Suksui which rises in *tappa* Bindwal and for some distance forms the southern boundary, and the Kayar which, rising in Gopalpur, flows across Bindwal and Barokhar, not far from the Suksui, and joins the Tons in the south-east corner of *tappa* Barokhar. *Tappas* Akbarpur and Bachhaur are drained by a line of narrow *tals* passing through *tappas* Haveli and Barniar and eventually discharging into the Tons, while the surface water of parts of *tappas* Bilari and Kukunar flows through Tal Salauna into the Chhoti Sarju. The country generally lies high and is well-drained.

The soil is for the most part a loam which along the Silani and Tons and again on the north side of the tract becomes light and sandy. On the other hand in *tappa* Bindwal and along and to the north of the Bilariaganj-Jianpur road are considerable tracts where the soil is a stiff clay interspersed with patches of *usar* and where the proportion of riceland is high.

The *kachhar* tract is a continuation of that found in Gopalpur. Along its southern border just under the edge of the *bangar* country flows the Chhoti Sarju. This was once a small stream which ran in an easterly direction to the point at which it crosses the Azamgarh-Dohri Ghat road and then turned sharply south. A few years before the settlement of 1877, however, the Ghagra broke into the Chhoti Sarju at Singhwara in Gopalpur, a short distance west of the point at which the river enters this pargana. The floods of the Ghagra scoured out the channel of the Chhoti Sarju down to the point where it turns southwards and then broke away to the north-east back to the main-stream through the Badrauwan *nala*. At the point where the Badrauwan *nala* leaves the Chhoti Sarju the bed of the latter has silted up, and its old channel is now for some distance actually under cultivation. Between the Chhoti Sarju and the Ghagra is a network of channels, dry in the hot weather, but forming large streams and lakes in the rains. The soil of the *kachhar* tract is generally fertile, but much of it is extremely light and poor, and the *kharif* crops are liable to injury from flood.

Of the total area of the pargana 31,852 acres or 19·44 per cent. are returned as barren waste, the area covered with water sites, roads and the like being included under this head. There are 28,919 acres, forming 17·65 per cent. of the total area, of culturable land out of cultivation, of which 2,571 acres are covered with groves and 4,225 acres are land recently thrown out. The remainder, 103,084 acres or 62·91 per cent. are under cultivation. The system of cultivation pursued does not differ from that found elsewhere in the northern portion of the district. Two-thirds of the cropped area is devoted to *kharif* crops as against 54 per cent. sown with *rabi*, some 20,000 acres or 20 per cent. of the area being twice cropped in the year. The chief crops grown in the *kharif* are rice,

which covers nearly half the area sown in this harvest, *arhar*, sugarcane, *mandua* and indigo; while in the *rabi* the bulk of the area sown is occupied by barley, alone or in combination, and by peas intermixed with gram. There is also some wheat grown in combination with barley in the *kachhar* where the soil appears to be suitable; but the area is not large. The irrigated area amounts to 51,119 acres or just 50 per cent. of that cultivated. In the *bangar* tract practically the whole of the *rabi* land is irrigated, but in the *kachhar* the natural moisture is sufficient for the crops and but a small area is artificially watered. No less than 47,056 acres derive their supply of water from wells, and in 1907-08 there were 3,445 masonry and 826 half masonry wells available for irrigation in the pargana. The wells are mostly worked by the lever or *dhenkul* but bucket wells are also found in the south near the Silani and Tons.

Sagri pargana as now constituted contains 266 villages, at present divided into 1,536 *mahals*. Of the latter 129 are held in single and 731 in joint *zamindari*. There are 248 perfect *pattidari* estates, of which 221 are *khuntaiti* and 27 *bighadam* ; while of the 428 imperfect *pattidari* estates 393 are *khuntaiti* and 35 *bighadam*. The chief proprietary castes are Bhuinhars, Rajputs, Musalmans, Banias and Kayasths, who hold the land for the most part as cultivating communities. The only large proprietors in the tahsil are the bankers, Lalas Harakh Chand and Moti Chand of Azmatgarh and the heirs of Muhammad Taqi also of Azmatgarh. The principal cultivating caste is that of Ahirs; but Chamars, Brahmans Rajputs, Kurmis, Bhuinhars and Koeris all hold substantial areas. At the recent settlement the general incidence on tenants' land was found to be Rs. 5·22 per acre. High caste occupancy tenants paid a rate of Rs. 4·39 an acre as compared with one of Rs. 5·59 paid by low caste tenants ; while tenants-at-will of high caste paid Rs. 4·10 and those of low caste Rs. 4·46. In 1907-08 proprietors as such cultivated 44 per cent., occupancy and ex-proprietary tenants 33 per cent., and tenants-at-will 23 per cent. of the holdings area.

The population of pargana Sagri has undergone fluctuations similar to those found in other parganas, though the available

figures necessarily exclude the population of the villages transferred from Gorakhpur after the census. Thus in 1872 there were 137,294 persons in the pargana, the density being 594 persons to the square mile. This rose to 178,533 in 1881 and to 189,295 in 1891. At the last enumeration in 1901 the population numbered 166,220 souls, the density being 720 persons to the square mile. Of this number 83,748 were females ; and classified according to religions, there were 140,950 Hindus, 25,198 Musalmans and 70 persons of other religions. Practically the entire population is agricultural in character. There is no town in the pargana to which the provisions of Act XX of 1856 have been applied and the largest villages are Aźmatgarh, Chandpatti, Bilariaganj and Jianpur, the last being the headquarters of the tahsil. The communications of the pargana are fairly good. The only metalled road in it is a portion of the Azamgarh-Dohrighat road which passes by Jianpur and has a branch to Azmatgarh, but there is a good system of unmetalled roads. A long road stretches across the pargana from Azmatgarh to Maharajganj, and from Azmatgarh roads lead to Muhammadabad, Imli, Ghosi and Raunapar. From Azamgarh an unmetalled passes through the pargana to Raunapar, and the Azamgarh-Fyzabad road just touches the southwest of the pargana. The *kachhar* tract, however, is very difficult of access in the rains, and even the metalled road to Dohri is not altogether safe from floods.

Except for assessment purposes the pargana does not form a separate administrative unit. For fiscal convenience it is divided into ten *tappas*, namely, Bindwal, Barokhar, Haveli, Biswan and Bilari in the south, Akbarpur, Bachhaur and Kukunar in the centre, and *tappa* Khas and Chenchul in the north.

SAGRI *Tahsil.*

Sagri is the north-eastern tahsil of the district and lies between the parallels of 26° 1′ and 26° 19′ N. and 83° 4′ and 83° 52′ E. It comprises the parganas of Gopalpur and Sagri, and is bounded on the south by tahsils Nizamabad and Muhammadabad, in the east by tahsil Ghosi, on the north by the Ghagra river, and on the

west by pargana Kauria and the district of Fyzabad. The total area is now 220,701 acres or 345 square miles.

The physical features of the tahsil have been fully described in the articles dealing with the parganas that compose it. The tahsil is divided into a *bangar* and a *kachhar* tract ; but the latter is larger in Sagri than in any other tahsil and covers about 30 per cent. of the whole area. The *kachhar* consists of the new alluvial formation lying on either side of the Chhoti Sarju river and on the south bank of the Ghagra, forming a broad strip along the north face of the tahsil and extending in a south-easterly direction along the course of the Chhoti Sarju past Azmatgarh. The soil is generally a fertile loam, but much is very light and poor, and it is liable to injury from floods. The *bangar* country lies to the south of the *kachhar* on a high elevation and is well drained by a number of streams, the Silani, Suksui and Kayar, or lines of narrow *jhils*, all of which ultimately drain into the Tons. The soil of this portion is for the most part a loam of good fertility, which becomes sandy along the Silani and Tons ; while in *tappa* Bindwal and north of Jianpur in pargana Sagri there is some *usar*.

Of the total area of the tahsil, 49,455 acres or 21·66 per cent. are classed as barren, no less than 27,635 acres of this being covered with water. There are 42,461 acres or 19·33 per cent. of culturable land out of cultivation, 21,164 acres of which are accounted for under the head of old fallow, the remainder, 128,785 acres or 59·01 per cent., were under the plough in 1906-07. The system of cultivation has already been noticed in the pargana articles and need not be repeated here. Fifty-three per cent. of the cultivated area or 68,290 acres were in the same year irrigated, two-thirds of the whole being watered from wells and the remainder from *jhils*, marshes or rivers. The *kharif* is the principal harvest and covers some 86,062 acres as compared with 80,106 acres sown in the spring, the chief crops being rice, sugarcane and the small millets in the autumn, and barley alone, wheat intermixed with gram and barley, and peas in the spring. The area twice-cropped in the year averages some 37,000 acres or 28 per cent. of the net cultivation.

There are now 755 villages in Sagri and one town, namely, Maharajganj. Details regarding the chief proprietary and cultivating castes have already been given in the separate pargana articles and need not be recapitulated here. There too will be found the numbers of the separate *mahals* and figures relating to cultivating tenures. The population of the tahsil is 234,872 persons, but owing to the changes in the composition of the tahsil in 1904, subsequent to the census of 1901, no details regarding the religion or castes of the tahsil as now constituted can be given ; for the figures of 1901 include the population of parganas Ghosi and Natthupur and exclude that of the villages transferred from Gorakhpur. The character of the population, however, may be generally indicated. The numerically strongest Hindu castes are Ahirs, Chamars, Brahmans, Bhuinhars, Rajputs and Koeris ; while among the Musalmans Sheikhs predominate, followed by Pathans. Nearly the whole population is dependent on agriculture for its means of subsistence, and there is no manufacture of any importance in the tahsil. Lists of the markets, fairs, schools and post-offices of the tahsil will be found in the appendix.

The communications of the tahsil are on the whole good. The railway does not touch it, but the provincial road from Azamgarh to Dhorighat passes through the south centre. In the south-west runs the once metalled road from Azamgarh to Fyzabad, and all the other roads except the branch to Azmatgarh are unmetalled. The headquarters of the tahsil are at Jianpur on the metalled road, but they were once at Azmatgarh, from which several roads radiate; these lead to Raunapar, on the Ghagra, Imla, Ghosi, Muhammadabad and Maharajganj, the road leading to the last named place traversing the whole breadth of the tahsil. At right angles to this and intersecting it at Bilariaganj runs the road from Azamgarh to Raunapar; and there is a small connecting road from Maharajganj to Captainganj. The passage of the Ghagra is effected by means of several ferries, the most important of which is at Raunapar or Nainijor. A list of these will be found in the appendix. Up to the year 1904 the Sagri tahsil comprised the parganas of Gopalpur, Sagri, Ghosi and Natthupur, the total area being 377,300 acres or nearly 590 square miles. In

October of that year, however, the new tahsil of Ghosi was constituted out of parganas Ghosi and Natthupur and two *tappas* of Muhammadabad. At the same time 67 square miles of country, which once belonged to the district of Gorakhpur and had become separated from it by a change of the stream of the Ghagra, were transferred to the district of Azamgarh and incorporated in the Sagri tahsil. The tahsil now forms a criminal and revenue subdivision which is generally entrusted for administrative purposes to a full powered officer on the district staff. In police matters the jurisdiction is divided between the police stations of Raunapar, Sagri Kandhrapur and Maharajganj; but their circles do not cover the whole area, for some villages fall within the circle of Dohrighat.

SARAI MIR, *Pargana* AND *Tahsil* NIZAMABAD.

The town of Sarai Mir lies 18 miles west of Azamgarh in 26° 2′ N. and 82° 56′ E., on the metalled road from Azamgarh to Shahganj. The Shahganj branch of the Bengal and North-Western Railway runs along close to this road and there is a railway station at Sarai Mir. The town is situated in *mauzas* Khudkashta, Kharewan and Chak Qazi in pargana Nizamabad. The old name of the place is Kharewan and it was apparently held by Muhammadans as far back as the 15th century. In the early part of the 16th century, one Saiyid Ali, a Sufi, who was known under the name of Shah Aski Khan or Shah Ali Aski Khan, came from Jaunpur, where some of his relatives held office in the reign of Sikandar Lodi, and settled in the vicinity of Kharewan. It is said that under Saiyid Ali's auspices a new settlement was made in 943 *Hijri* (1536 A.D.) and named Murtazabad, but the name did not gain currency and the place became known as Sarai Mir. Saiyid Ali was, according to the local tradition, an intimate friend of Sher Shah, whose advancement he foretold. His tomb is preserved in the town and a fair is held at it once a year. On the outskirts of the town there is a large mausoleum, built partly of block *kankar* and partly of sandstone, which is in the Pathan style and is known as the mausoleum of Lal Khan. Nothing however is known regarding Lal Khan except that he and his brothers were residents in the neighbourhood before or in the time of Saiyid Ali.

Sarai Mir is a large place, but the population has continuously declined from 5,238 persons in 1881 to 3,594 in 1901. The Hindus numbered on the last occasion 2,148 souls and the Musalmans 1,446. The population is of a miscellaneous description and no special trade or manufacture is carried on. There are however some sugar refineries in the place and some looms; and markets are held on Sundays and Wednesdays. The town has been administered under the provisions of Act XX of 1856 since the year 1860. The income is derived by the usual method of assessment under the Act and averages some Rs. 1,000 : it is expended in the maintenance of a small police force and conservancy staff and in small works of improvement. Some 500 houses on an average are assessed to the tax, the incidence being Re. 1-15-0 per assessed house and Re. 0-4-3 per head of population. The place contains a cattle-pound, post-office and upper primary school ; and the Village Sanitation Act (U. P. Act II. of 1892) is in force.

SARAI RANI, *Pargana* AND *Tahsil* NIZAMABAD.

This place, which is also known as Rani-ki-Sarai and Sithwal, is situated on the Azamgarh-Jaunpur road in 26° 1′ N. and 83° 4′ E. at a distance of six miles from Azamgarh. The metalled road to Shahganj here leaves the Jaunpur road and unmetalled roads lead to Nizamabad and Mehnagar. Rani-ki-Sarai which is properly applied only to the bazar, was founded by Rani Ratanjot, wife of Raja Harbans, a Bais Rajputin of Kharagpur in pargana Belhabans. It is a thriving place which has retained its importance owing to its position on the high road; but the population has fallen from 2,138 souls in 1881 to 1,732 in 1901. Of the latter number 1,628 were Hindus and 104 were Musalmans. The village is owned by a numerous body of Bhuinhars, and contains an encamping-ground, post-office and school. Markets are held, but on no fixed day, and a small fair is celebrated at the Dasahra. The Village Sanitation Act (U. P. Act II of 1892) is in force.

SARDAHA, *Pargana* GOPALPUR, *Tahsil* SAGRI.

This is a small village situated near the Ghagra river in 26° 13′ N. and 83° 12′ E., at a distance of 22 miles from Azamgarh.

It had in 1901 a population of only 343 persons, 277 being Hindus and 66 Musalmans ; but it is the residence of a number of grain merchants and traders who carry on trade at the small and declining mart of Chhapri close by. Markets are held in it every Wednesday and Saturday, and there is also a branch post-office. The Village Sanitation Act (U. P. Act II of 1892) is in force.

SARSENA, *Pargana* CHIRIAKOT, *Tahsil* MUHAMMADABAD.

This small village lies in 25° 51′ N. and 83° 21′ E., on the metalled road from Azamgarh to Ghazipur, at a distance of 22 miles from Azamgarh. In 1901 it had a population of 859 persons, of whom 837 were Hindus and 22 were Musalmans, Chamars being the numerically strongest Hindu caste. The place is one of no importance but contains an encamping-ground and inspection bungalow.

SULTANPUR, *Pargana* NATTHUPUR, *Tahsil* GHOSI.
vide MADHUBAN.

SUMENDA, *Pargana* AND *Tahsil* MUHAMMADABAD.

Sumenda is a large village only four and a half miles south-east from Azamgarh in 26° 0′ N. and 83° 12′ E. It lies a short distance off the metalled road to Ghazipur. The place is chiefly noticeable for its size, the population in 1901 numbering 2,415 souls, of whom 2,374 were Hindus and 41 were Musalmans. The village is owned by a large community of Rajputs, some of whom are Birwars and some Parihars. There is a Trigonometrical Survey station in the village with a recorded level of 260 feet and a small primary school.

SURAJPUR, *Pargana* AND *Tahsil* GHOSI.

Surajpur Khas is a large village on the banks of the Ghagra river lying in 26° 14′ N. and 83° 34′ E., on the unmetalled road from Dohrighat to Sultanpur and Madhuban. It is nine miles distant from the headquarters at Ghosi and 32 miles from Azamgarh. In 1881 Surajpur had a population of 4,492 persons, but this has now much decreased and in 1901 there were only 3,544 inhabitants, all of whom except 171 were Hindus. Bhuinhars are the numeri-

cally strongest Hindu caste, and the place is the home of the Kurhanian Bhuinhar families who own so much of pargana Ghosi. Surajpur contains a cattle pound, vernacular secondary school and branch post-office ; and markets are held twice a week. The *Ram Lila* fair is celebrated in the village in *Kuar* (September-October).

TARWAH, *Pargana* AND *Tahsil* DEOGAON.

A large and straggling village in the extreme south of the district in 25° 45′ N. and 83° 9′ E. It is situated on the unmetalled road which runs from Bardah through Deogaon to Chiriakot, the distance to Azamgarh being 20 miles in a direct line or 28 miles by the road *viâ* Chiriakot. In 1881 Tarwah possessed a population of 3,388 souls, but by 1901 the number had fallen to 2,643, of whom 2,440 were Hindus and 203 were Musalmans, Rajputs being the numerically strongest Hindu caste. Tarwah contains a police station, cattle-pound, post-office, primary school, and inspection bungalow ; but is otherwise a place of no particular importance.

THEKMAN, *Pargana* BELA-DAULATABAD, *Tahsil* DEOGAON.

This is a small village situated in 25° 53′ N. and 82° 55′ E., on the metalled road from Azamgarh to Jaunpur, at a distance of 20 miles from Azamgarh. In 1901 the place had a population of 780 souls, all except 52 being Hindu and Chamars being the predominant caste. There is a military encamping-ground, inspection bungalow, upper primary school and post-office in the village ; and markets are held on Mondays and Fridays.

WALIDPUR BHIRA, *Pargana* AND *Tahsil* MUHAMMADABAD.

This is a very large village in 26° 3′ N. and 83° 21′ E., on the banks of the Tons river some twelve miles from Azamgarh and one and a half miles from Muhammadabad. The unmetalled road from Muhammadabad to Azmatgarh passes through the place and is here joined by unmetalled roads from Ghosi and Kopaganj. In 1881 the population numbered 5,343 persons, but in 1901 the number had fallen to 5,085, of whom 3,648 were Musalmans and 1,437 were Hindus. The village is a well cultivated one, and besides the

agriculturists there is a large number of weavers resident in it. The proprietors are Sheikhs and a well known family who trace their descent to a Saint of Jaunpur, who received a grant of land at Walidpur from Sultan Husain of Jaunpur. Market is held in the place every Monday and Friday, and the village contains a primary school.

Gazetteer of Azamgarh.

APPENDIX.

GAZETTEER

OF

AZAMGARH.

APPENDIX.

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TABLE I.—*Population by Tahsils, 1901.*

Tahsil.	Total.			Hindus.			Musalmans.			Others.		
	Persons.	Males.	Females.	Persons.	Males.	Females.	Persons.	Males.	Females.	Persons.	Males.	Females.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
Deogaon ...	224,827	111,090	113,737	209,113	103,647	105,466	15,667	7,410	8,257	47	33	14
Azamgarh ...	264,114	129,561	134,553	211,185	104,638	106,547	52,395	24,667	27,728	534	256	278
Mahul ...	312,234	155,106	157,128	274,720	137,357	137,363	37,445	17,712	19,733	69	37	32
Sagri ...	421,740	208,919	212,821	372,102	184,767	187,335	49,330	23,992	25,338	308	160	148
Muhammadabad ...	306,870	152,638	154,232	246,251	122,956	123,295	59,794	29,261	30,533	825	421	404
Total ...	1,529,785	757,314	772,471	1,313,371	653,365	660,006	214,631	103,042	111,589	1,783	907	876

TABLE II.—*Population by Thanas, 1901.*

District.	Serial number of Thana.	Name of Thana.	Total population.			Hindus.			Musalmans.			Others.		
			Total.	Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.	Total	Males.	Females.	Total.	Males.	Females.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
Azamgarh.	1	Azamgarh (Kotwali) ...	72,500	35,917	36,583	60,437	30,343	30,094	11,856	5,453	6,403	207	121	86
	2	Nizamabad	64.715	32,498	32,217	53,689	26,978	26,711	10,725	5,402	5,323	301	118	183
	3	Sarai Mir	56,654	27,699	28,955	37,201	18,781	18,420	19,435	8,908	10,527	18	10	8
	4	Ahraula	77,657	38,247	39,410	70,162	34,670	35,492	7,486	3,570	3,916	9	7	2
	5	Gambhirpur ...	67,038	31,856	35,182	53,677	25,690	27,987	13,356	6,162	7,194	5	4	1
	6	Mehnagar	49,312	23,940	25,372	44,906	21,857	23,049	4,377	2,065	2,312	29	18	11
	7	Jahanaganj ...	41,360	20,745	20,615	38,517	19,404	19,113	2,838	1,337	1,501	5	4	1
	8	Kandhrapur ...	54,356	27,225	27,131	47,915	24,143	23,772	6,436	3,077	3,359	5	5	...
	9	Muhammadabad ...	101,305	50,098	51,207	70,589	34,759	35,830	29,983	14,968	15,015	733	371	362
	10	Mau	97,412	48,592	48,820	78,436	39,206	39,230	18,909	9,350	9,559	67	36	31
	11	Ghosi	83,304	40,743	42,561	71,855	35,287	36,568	11,366	5,414	5,952	83	42	41
	12	Chiriakot	70,454	35,599	34,855	65,750	33,121	32,629	4,681	2,465	2,216	23	13	10
	13	Maharajganj ...	70,774	35,451	35,323	66,502	32,887	33,615	4,249	2,551	1,698	23	13	10
	14	Raunapar	47,095	24,005	23,090	42,250	21,620	20,630	4,841	2,384	2,457	4	1	3
	15	Sagri	85,497	41,764	43,733	70,752	34,575	36,177	14,698	7,162	7,536	47	27	20
	16	Dohri	42,194	21,183	21,011	40,163	20,149	20,014	2,009	1,023	986	22	11	11
	17	Madhuban	88,443	42,565	45,878	78,708	37,906	40,802	9,608	4,595	5,013	127	64	63
	18	Atraulia	83,297	40,219	43,078	77,419	37,242	40,177	5,820	2,948	2,872	58	29	29
	19	Didarganj	77,089	39,625	37,464	61,650	33,258	28,392	15,437	6,366	9,071	2	1	1
	20	Pawai	42,391	21,903	20,488	37,464	19,533	17,931	4,927	2,370	2,557	...	...	...
	21	Barda	41,469	21,484	19,985	37,727	19,749	17,978	3,742	1,735	2,007	...	...	...
	22	Tarwa	49,568	24,345	25,223	47,867	23,511	24,356	1,701	834	867	...	...	...
	23	Deogaon	65,901	31,611	34,290	59,735	28,696	31,039	6,151	2,903	3,248	15	12	
		Total ...	1,529,785	757,314	772,471	1,313,371	653,365	660,006	214,631	103,042	111,589	1,783	907	876

TABLE III.—*Vital statistics.*

Year.	Births.				Deaths.			
	Total.	Males.	Fe-males.	Rate per 1,000.	Total	Males.	Fe-males.	Rate per 1,000.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
1891 ...	46,227	24,175	22,052	26·74	61,111	32,117	28,994	35 35
1892 ...	52,208	27,195	25,013	30·20	47,549	25,041	22,508	27·51
1893 ...	61,347	31,826	29,521	35·49	35,376	18,443	16,933	20·47
1894 ...	58,486	30,691	27,795	33·83	78,488	39,912	38,576	45 40
1895 ...	37,834	19,763	18,071	21·88	49,162	26,055	23,107	28·44
1896 ...	41,496	21,636	19,860	24·00	38,580	20,911	17,669	22·32
1897 ...	36,854	19,286	17,568	21·32	67,575	37,112	30,463	39·09
1898 ...	44,931	23,462	21,469	25·99	38,112	19,835	18,277	22 05
1899 ...	70,105	36,244	33,861	40·55	49,043	25,706	23,337	28·37
1900 ...	52,763	27,311	25,452	30·52*	42,621	23,085	19,536	24·66*
1901 ...	44,280	23,190	21,090	28·94	32,283	17,551	14,732	21·10
1902 ...	62,181	32,360	29,821	40·64	36,409	19,000	17,409	23·80
1903 ...	65,612	34,085	31,527	42·89	51,806	26,626	25,180	33·86
1904 ...	63,889	33,358	30,531	41·76	58,741	28,605	30,136	38·40
1905 ...	51,376	26,780	24,596	33·58	75,606	37,413	38,193	49·42
1906 ...	47,458	24,903	22,555	30·65	61,201	31,366	29,835	39·53
1907 ...	54,792	28,211	26,581	35·39	55,904	27,582	28,322	36·11
1908 ...								
1909 ...								
1910 ...								
1911 ...								
1912 ...								
1913 ...								
1914 ...								
1915 ...								
1916 ...								
1917 ...								

* The rates from 1891 to 1900 are calculated from the returns of the 1891 census.

TABLE IV.—*Deaths according to cause.*

Year.	Total deaths from— All causes.	Plague.	Cholera.	Small-pox.	Fever.	Bowel complaints.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1891 ...	61,111	...	10,262	3,837	38,081	2,256
1892 ...	47,549	...	4,780	377	34,771	1,210
1893 ...	35,376	...	198	131	27,122	913
1894 ...	78,488	...	11,270	51	51,400	4,584
1895 ...	49,162	...	4,193	83	36,427	1,976
1896 ...	38,580	...	897	332	30,826	969
1897 ...	67,575	...	856	3,454	52,505	1,857
1898 ...	38,112	...	32	381	30,460	612
1899 ...	49,043	...	161	169	36,590	1,334
1900 ...	42,621	...	2,512	22	30,514	1,278
1901 ...	32,283	1	686	11	24,939	599
1902 ...	36,409	1,057	538	88	25,247	782
1903 ...	51,806	4,652	1,973	588	33,183	933
1904 ...	58,741	16,994	76	75	31,421	576
1905 ...	75,606	16,795	2,971	26	45,900	687
1906 ...	61,201	6,419	7,184	108	38,901	644
1907 ...	55,904	12,421	675	474	32,818	568
1908 ...						
1909 ...						
1910 ...						
1911 ...						
1912 ...						
1913 ...						
1914 ...						
1915 ...						
1916 ...						
1917 ...						

TABLE V.—*Statistics of cultivation and irrigation*, 1315 Fasli, *District Azamgarh.*

Pargana and tahsil.	Total area.	Waste.	Culturable.	Cultivated.							Double cropped.
				Irrigated.					Dry.	Total.	
				Total.	Canal.	Wells.	Tanks.	Other sources.			
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12
	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.
Nizamabad ...	200,446	34,550	38,924	68,319	...	64,841	...	3,478	58,653	126,972	22,789
Tahsil Azamgarh ...	200,446	34,550	38,924	68,319	...	64,841	...	3,478	58,653	126,972	22,789
Bela-Daulatabad ...	81,463	23,476	12,552	22,063	...	17,248	...	4,815	23,372	45,435	8,994
Belhabans	39,014	9,508	7,350	11,236	...	11,186	...	50	10,920	22,156	4,434
Deogaon	126,084	27,036	30,100	31,036	...	27,634	...	3,402	37,912	68,948	14,582
Tahsil Deogaon ...	246,561	60,020	50,002	64,335	...	56,068	...	8,267	72,204	136,539	28,010
Kauria	38,838	6,707	7,759	14,395	...	13,848	...	547	9,977	24,372	4,189
Mahul	168,243	36,699	37,906	48,126	...	42,612	...	5,514	45,512	93,638	15,644
Atraulia	74,824	9,420	15,848	30,092	...	28,907	...	1,185	19,464	49,556	8,765
Tahsil Mahul ...	281,905	52,826	61,513	92,613	...	85,367	...	7,246	74,953	167,566	28,598
Sagri	163,855	31,852	28,919	51,119	...	47,056	...	4,063	51,965	103,084	20,039
Gopalpur	58,274	12,346	10,323	12,636	...	10,582	...	2,054	22,969	35,605	7,958
Tahsil Sagri ...	222,129	44,198	39,242	63,755	...	57,638	...	6,117	74,934	138,689	27,997
Maunath Bhanjan ...	14,366	2,244	3,503	4,948	...	3,944	...	1,004	3,671	8,619	1,715
Qariat Mittu ...	14,847	5,276	1,775	3,592	...	3,343	...	249	4,204	7,796	1,384
Chiriakot	47,528	10,745	10,722	15,005	...	13,844	...	1,161	11,056	26,061	6,533
Muhammadabad ...	152,462	29,475	32,928	49.120	...	43,467	...	5,653	40,939	90,059	15,426
Tahsil Muhammadabad,	229,203	47,740	48,928	72,665	...	64,598	...	8,067	59,870	132,535	25,058
Ghosi	152,549	25,916	27,284	55,711	...	48,585	...	7,126	43,638	99,349	20,929
Natthupur ...	82,163	16,379	19,290	21,837	...	20,458	...	1,379	24,657	46,494	9,889
Tahsil Ghosi ...	234,712	42,295	46,574	77,548	...	69,043	...	8,505	68,295	145,843	30,818
District Total ...	1,414,956	281,629	285,183	439,235	...	397,555	...	41,680	408,909	848,144	163,270

TABLE VI.—*Area in acres under the principal crops, Tahsil Azamgarh.*

Year.	Rabi.							Kharif.					
	Total.	Wheat alone.	Wheat and Barley.	Barley alone.	Barley mixed.	Peas.	Opium.	Total.	Rice.	Maize.	Mandwa.	Indigo.	Sugar-cane.
Fasli ...													
1305 ...	Figures not available owing to survey operations.												
1306 ...													
1307 ...													
1308 ...													
1309 ...													
1310 ...	68,538	3,751	8,432	35,471	486	11,359	726	81,377	29,388	6,527	5,500	10,761	9,461
1311 ...	Figures not available owing to settlement operations.												
1312 ...													
1313 ...													
1314 ...													
1315 ...	63,212	2,629	3,809	35,629	3,352	14,166	738	86,243	39,999	6,557	3,696	454	11,259
1316 ...													
1317 ...													
1318 ...													
1319 ...													
1320 ...													
1321 ...													
1322 ...													
1323 ...													
1324 ...													
1325 ...													
1326 ...													

TABLE VI.—(continued).—*Area in acres under the principal crops, Tahsil Deogaon.*

Year.	Rabi.							Kharif					
	Total.	Wheat alone.	Wheat and barley.	Barley alone.	Barley mixed.	Peas.	Opium.	Total.	Rice.	Maize.	Mandwa.	Indigo.	Sugar-cane.
Fasli.													
1305 ...	53,681	3,932	3,816	36,321	231	8,594	787	67,773	44,430	11,169	3,518	1,226	7,430
1306 ...	Figures not available owing to survey operations.												
1307 ...													
1308 ...													
1309 ...													
1310 ...	63,220	3,932	3,816	36,321	231	8,594	787	87,569	44,430	11,169	3,518	1,226	7,430
1311 ...	Figures not available owing to settlement operations.												
1312 ...													
1313 ...													
1314 ...													
1315 ...	54,806	3,163	2,061	31,626	5,097	11,182	515	109,493	67,180	10,307	1,258	...	10,673
1316 ...													
1317 ...													
1318 ...													
1319 ...													
1320 ...													
1321 ...													
1322 ...													
1323 ...													
1324 ...													
1325 ...													
1326 ...													

TABLE VI.—(continued).—*Area in acres under the principal crops, Tahsil Mahul.*

Year.	Rabi.							Kharif.						
	Total.	Wheat alone.	Wheat and barley.	Barley alone.	Barley mixed.	Peas.	Opium.	Total.	Rice.	Maize.	Mandwa.	Indigo.	Sugar-cane.
Fasli.													
1305 ...	81,671	5,022	11,896	40,125	7,556	15,865	1,207	74,238	50,551	24	4,818	6,831	12,014
1306 ...	Figures not available owing to survey operations.												
1307 ...													
1308 ...													
1309 ...													
1310 ...	82,805	5,463	11,216	30,497	998	17,501	1,225	111,564	67,474	5,767	4,113	3,504	13,729
1311 ...	Figures not available owing to settlement operations.												
1312 ...													
1313 ...													
1314 ...													
1315 ...	77,867	3,140	5,884	41,478	5,631	16,216	2,354	118,014	68,139	7,252	3,140	266	15,180
1316 ...													
1317 ...													
1318 ...													
1319 ...													
1320 ...													
1321 ...													
1322 ...													
1323 ...													
1324 ...													
1325 ...													
1326 ...													

TABLE VI—(continued).—*Area in acres under the principal crops, Tahsil Sagri.*

Year.	Rabi.							Kharif.					
	Total.	Wheat alone.	Wheat and barley.	Barley alone.	Barley mixed.	Peas.	Opium.	Total.	Rice.	Maize.	Mandwa.	Indigo.	Sugar-cane.
Fasli.													
305 ...	Figures not available owing to survey operations.												
306 ...													
307 ...													
308 ...													
309 ...													
310 ...	146,894	2,272	36,757	39,375	6,713	44,839	2,118	132,600	70,240	4,405	6,820	2,442	19,921
311 ...	Figures not available.												
12° ...	79,425	1,499	19,678	24,338	3,560	17,798	685	87,266	49,455	4.545	3,352	1,823	11,455
13 ...	80,271	1,426	20,249	24,896	3,418	17,710	695	86,092	48,820	4,441	3,320	1,823	11,302
14 ...	80,624	1,400	20,072	24,707	3,961	17,780	703	84,824	48,225	3,861	3,317	1,823	10,888
15 ...	68,447	788	9,734	35,363	5,908	12,843	803	97,852	51,711	3,272	2,371	257	12,095
16 ...													
17 ...													
18 ...													
19 ...													
20 ...													
21 ...													
22 ...													
23 ...													
24 ...													
25 ...													
26 ...													

° Figures as they stood after re-adjustment of the tahsil boundaries in 1904.

TABLE VI—(continued).—*Area in acres under the principal crops, Tahsil Muhammadabad.*

Year.	Rabi.							Kharif.					
	Total.	Wheat alone.	Wheat and barley.	Barley alone.	Barley mixed.	Peas.	Opium.	Total.	Rice.	Maize.	Mandwa.	Indigo.	Sugar-cane.
Fasli.													
1305 ...													
1306 ...	81,396	2,915	7,171	44,076	4,060	16,199	1,552	97,344	39,463	3,259	7,206	5,914	9,365
1307 ...	Figures not available owing to survey operations.												
1308 ...													
1309 ...													
1310 ...													
1311 ...	81,141	3,099	5,371	32,453	2,770	29,210	1,320	109,825	57,958	1,994	4,837	794	14,323
1312* ...	Figures not available owing to settlement operations.												
1313 ...	63,771	2,600	3,819	26,438	1,306	23,068	1,025	90,194	49,581	1,430	3,499	700	11,948
1314 ...	Figures not available owing to settlement operations.												
1315 ...													
1316 ...	58,724	1,944	2,145	33,476	2,205	15,664	1,213	98,509	56,151	1,851	2,573	178	13,030
1317 ...													
1318 ...													
1319 ...													
1320 ..													
1321 ...													
1322 ...													
1323 ...													
1324 ...													
1325 ...													
1326 ...													

* Figures as they stood after re-adjustment of the tahsil boundaries in 1904.

TABLE VI—(concluded).—*Area in acres under the principal crops, Tahsil Ghosi.*

Year.	Rabi.							Kharif.					
	Total.	Wheat alone.	Wheat and barley.	Barley alone.	Barley mixed.	Peas.	Opium.	Total.	Rice.	Maize.	Mandwa.	Indigo.	Sugar-cane.
Fasli.													
1305 ...	65,330	1,036	19,377	20,297	4,562	18,509	1,549	39,981	24,485	21	5,036	3,060	7,379
1306 ...	Figures not available owing to survey operations.												
1307 ...													
1308 ...													
1309 ...													
1310 ...													
1311 ...													
1312 ...	94,185	1,529	22,295	24,231	6,039	23,590	1,846	78,572	37,102	2,104	4,905	668	12,218
1313 ...	Figures not available owing to settlement operations.												
1314 ...													
1315 ...	79,311	823	10,054	39,056	3,251	21,892	1,534	96,950	52,038	2,086	2,678	...	14,700
1316 ...													
1317 ...													
1318 ...													
1319 ...													
1320 ...													
1321 ...													
1322 ...													
1323 ...													
1324 ...													
1325 ...													
1326 ...													

TABLE VII.—*Criminal Justice.*

Year.	Number of persons convicted or bound over in respect of—												Cases under—	
	Offences against public tranquillity (Chapter VIII).	Offences affecting life.	Grievous hurt.	Rape.	Cattle theft.	Criminal force and assault.	Theft.	Robbery and dacoity.	Receiving stolen property.	Criminal trespass.	Bad livelihood.	Keeping the peace.	Opium Act.	Excise Act.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15
1898 ...	145	90	47	1	31	63	546	26	154	232	55	66	11	10
1899 ...	243	126	98	8	19	57	407	23	93	185	55	82	7	4
1900 ...	118	87	51	3	34	88	825	31	176	442	51	30	6	17
1901 ...	145	52	36	1	36	36	454	5	140	256	73	147	6	12
1902 ...	180	105	22	2	16	44	359	14	56	172	97	57	7	2
1903 ...	87	63	15	2	10	51	218	10	37	156	119	98	5	4
1904 ...	92	53	21	2	4	28	210	3	59	95	73	63	5	1
1905 ...	78	44	15	...	6	38	328	9	95	188	104	34	9	11
1906 ...	48	55	33	...	42	40	495	4	80	221	104	101	10	8
1907 ...	105	28	21	...	48	26	376	5	71	165	66	28	11	14
1908 ...	94	46	19	...	25	22	250	2	31	131	34	46	7	14
1909 ...														
1910 ...														
1911 ...														
1912 ...														
1913 ...														
1914 ...														
1915 ...														
1916 ...														
1917 ...														
1918 ...														

TABLE VIII.—*Cognizable crime.*

Year.	Number of cases investigated by police—			Number of persons—		
	Suo motu.	By orders of Magistrate.	Sent up for trial.	Tried.	Acquitted or discharged.	Convicted.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
1898 ...	2,210	...	1,698	2,213	390	1,822
1899 ...	2,205	...	1,491	2,195	382	1,767
1900 ...	3,194	...	2,042	2,694	633	2,012
1901 ...	2,062	2	1,275	1,680	359	1,304
1902 ...	1,708	...	1,055	1,451	299	1,104
1903 ...	1,454	...	705	978	278	700
1904 ...	1,441	...	651	1,143	418	725
1905 ...	2,362	...	913	1,369	326	1,043
1906 ...	2,389	...	1,068	1,465	286	1,179
1907 ...	1,877	...	987	1,380	291	1,089
1908 ...	1,270	...	692	997	209	788
1909 ...						
1910 ...						
1911 ...						
1912 ...						
1913 ...						
1914 ...						
1915 ...						
1916 ...						
1917 ...						
1918 ...						

NOTE.—Columns 2 and 3 should show cases instituted during the year.

TABLE IX.—*Revenue demand at successive settlements.*

Pargana.	Year of settlement.					
	First Triennial 1802-05.	Second Triennial 1806-08.	Third Settlement 1809-11.	Fourth Settlement 1812-22.	Settlement under Regulation IX of 1833.	Settlement by Mr. Reid 1868-77.
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
Nizamabad ...	1,89,801	1,66,461	1,88,669	2,02,727	3,04,069	4,06,843
Tahsil Azamgarh ...	1,89,801	1,66,461	1,88,669	2,02,727	3,04,069	4,06,843
Bela Daulatabad ...		Included in Nizamabad.				
Belhabans ...	42,001	34,862	35,799	33,274	39,937	45,087
Deogaon ...	93,728	1,15,714	1,14,653	1,09,527	1,17,254	1,25,688
Tahsil Deogaon ...	1,35,729	1,50,576	1,50,452	1,42,801	1,57,191	1,70,775
Kauria ...	1,35,108	35,032	35,866	33,327	37,917	47,548
Mahul ...	1,83,418	1,03,321	1,23,512	1,22,139	1,66,212	2,19,645
Atraulia ...	Included in Kauria	71,007	81,760	76,511	81,471	95,484
Tahsil Mahul ...	3,18,526	2,09,360	2,41,138	2,31,977	2,85,600	3,62,677
Sagri ...	1,00,076	90,479	96,654	98,346	1,26,989	1,67,152
Gopalpur ...	20,420	19,668	19,828	20,583	27,550	37,986
Tahsil Sagri ...	1,20,496	1,10,147	1,16,482	1,18,929	1,54,539	2,05,138
Mau Nathbhanjan...	10,358	9,210	9,651	9,686	11,727	18,531
Qariat Mittu ...	20,812	9,544	9,946	10,347	14,288	17,789
Chiriakot ...	25,822	29,028	30,271	30,110	43,604	59,544
Muhammadabad ...	1,02,276	1,22,461	1,29,039	1,33,241	1,71,916	2,66,104
Tahsil Muhammadabad.	1,59,268	1,70,243	1,78,907	1,83,384	2,41,535	3,61,968
Ghosi * ...	74,760	60,961	62,306	63,967	94,080	1,35,509
Natthupur ...	25,695	42,716	43,419	42,538	58,551	68,575
Tahsil Ghosi ...	1,00,455	1,03,677	1,05,725	1,06,505	1,52,631	2,04,084
Total District ...	10,24,275	9,10,464	9,81,373	9,86,323	12,95,565	17,11,485

* Excludes villages recently transferred from Muhammadabad.

TABLE X.—*Present demand for revenue and cesses for the year 1315 Fasli.*

Pargana and tahsil.	Where included in *Ain-i-Akbari*.	Revenue.	Cesses.	Total.	Incidence per acre— Cultivated.	Incidence per acre— Total.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
		Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.	Rs. a. p.
Tahsil Nizamabad—						
Nizamabad ..	Nizamabad, Sarkar Jaunpur.	3,18,937 0 0	32,063 4 0	3,51,000 4 0	2 12 2	1 12 0
Tahsil Deogaon—						
Bela Daulatabad ..		1,16,513 0 0	11,650 9 9	1,28,163 9 9	2 7 10	1 6 11
Belhabans ..	Belhabans, Sarkar Ghazipur.	50,522 12 0	5,050 5 0	55,573 1 0	2 3 8	1 4 1
Deogaon ..	Deogaon, Sarkar Jaunpur.	1,42,150 8 6	14,091 11 3	1,56,242 3 9	1 14 1	1 2 0
Tahsil Mahul—						
Kauria	Kauria ..	57,257 0 0	5,733 11 0	62,990 11 0	2 7 11	1 9 11
Mahul	Nigun, Ungli and Surharpur.	2,42,404 0 0	24,186 5 5	2,66,590 5 5	2 13 6	1 9 4
Atraulia ..	Kauria and Tilahani.	1,08,845 0 0	10,882 1 7	1,19,727 1 7	2 6 7	1 7 2
Tahsil Sagri—						
Sagri	Sagri ..	2,02,033 0 0	20,336 3 0	2,22,369 3 0	2 4 5	1 8 0
Belghat* ..	..	15,971 0 0	1,597 1 8	17,568 1 8	1 3 10	0 8 4
Gopalpur ..	Gopalpur ..	55,525 0 0	5,554 15 0	61,079 15 0	2 4 6	1 8 4
Tahsil Muhammadabad—						
Mau Nathbhanjan ..	Mau ..	20,822 6 9	2,092 9 4	22,915 0 1	2 10 5	1 9 5
Qariat Mittu ..	Qariat Mittu ..	17,695 0 0	1,768 0 0	19,463 0 0	2 8 1	1 4 10
Chiriakot ..	Chiriakot ..	62,,344 8 0	6,415 13 0	68,760 5 0	2 10 3	1 7 0
Muhammadabad ..	Muhammadabad.	2,15,090 8 10	21,550 3 6	2,36,640 12 4	2 10 0	1 8 10
Tahsil Ghosi—						
Ghosi	Ghosi, Chakesar,	2,25,589 0 0	22,565 0 0	2,48,154 0 0	2 7 11	1 10 11
Natthupur ..	Natthupur ..	77,100 0 0	9,109 0 0	86,209 0 0	1 13 8	1 0 9

TABLE XI.—*Excise.*

Year.	Receipts from foreign liquors.	Country spirit.		Receipts from *tari* and *sendhi*.	Drugs.			Opium.		Total receipts.	Total charges.	Incidence of receipts per 10,000 of population from—			Number of shops for sale of—		
		Receipts.	Consumption in gallons.		Total receipts.	Consumption in maunds of— *ganja.*	Consumption in maunds of— *charas*	Total receipts.	Consumption.			Liquor including *tari.*	Drugs.	Opium.	Country spirit.	Drugs.	Opium.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18
		Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Md. s.	Md. s.	Rs.	Md. s.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.			
1890-91 ...	24	45,316	27,123	7,969	21,500	Not available.	Not available.	3,490	8 16	78,844	1,261	308	124	20	264	82	50
1891-92 ...	24	30,893	14,673	7,110	16,500	Not available.	Not available.	3,786	9 27	58,738	2,404	220	95	22	252	82	28
1892-93 ...	24	38,961	16,455	7,786	19,670	50 8	6 19	5,350	13 39	71,914	2,273	270	113	31	253	83	35
1893-94 ...	...	41,731	17,789	7,989	19,500	58 0	14 8	4,265	11 5	73,534	1,520	268	113	25	255	83	34
1894-95 ...	...	40,698	17,131	8,839	21,330	49 24	28 1	4,447	12 13	75,460	1,963	280	123	26	224	83	35
1895-96 ...	...	36,047	14,393	6,923	17,834	43 10	30 17	4,238	12 24	65,120	1,537	237	103	25	215	83	42
1896-97 ...	...	29,345	14,146	7,134	16,666	32 17	13 5	3,739	11 7	56,940	1,300	201	96	21	212	83	42
1897-98 ...	...	36,660	21,841	7,858	18,108	47 6	18 4	3,679	11 2	66,376	3,982	248	105	21	208	91	42
1898-99 ...	36	59,650	34,621	8,950	18,500	41 6	26 16	6,395	13 38	91,786	1,575	387	175	26	209	91	42
1899-1900,	108	55,303	21,760	8,707	17,750	36 30	32 24	4,709	13 25	86,667	1,601	336	187	32	178	91	42
1900-01 ...	96	47,498	21,326	9,285	35,559	29 18	27 4	4,680	10 6	97,198	1,534	372	232	31	170	91	36
1901-02 ...	96	49,451	23,583	8,350	37,428	39 19	30 17	5,260	9 18	1,00,721	194	381	246	35	177	91	36
1902-03 ..	96	55,974	26,880	9,680	38,263	39 5	28 6	5,337	11 31	1,09,365	636	433	252	35	175	91	38
1903-04 ...	96	67,665	26,423	10,107	50,904	29 16	23 36	5,343	10 11	1,34,125	724	512	335	35	178	91	38
1904-05 ...	188	76,205	30,099	9,846	51,895	32 13	22 22	6,055	12 23	1,44,198	767	567	341	40	173	91	37
1905-06 ...	150	66,512	24,198	10,297	52,663	29 24	20 34	5,960	11 24	1,35,586	737	500	342	39	157	91	37
1906-07 ...	75	59,830	21,355	10,292	51,210	23 26	18 0	4,768	13 7	1,26,173	707	456	332	31	153	91	36
1907-08 ...	255	59,098	19,983	11,440	49,049	29 6	16 38	5,154	14 16	1,23,021	1,425	447	318	33	146	91	33
1908-09 ...																	
1909-10 ...																	
1910-11 ...																	
1911-12 ...																	
1912-13 ...																	

TABLE XII.—*Stamps.*

Year.	Receipts from— Non-Judicial.	Court-fee including copies.	All sources.	Total charges.
1	2	3	4	5
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
1890-91	27,425	1,32,939	1,60,485	1,669
1891-92	29,647	1,41,442	1,71,309	2,391
1892-93	31,035	1,33,685	1,64,873	3,072
1893-94	28,151	1,22,545	1,50,828	2,187
1894-95	34,688	1,17,574	1,52,458	1,692
1895-96	38,263	1,18,284	1,56,728	1,699
1896-97	38,960	1,11,084	1,50,140	1,977
1897-98	38,125	1,16,080	1,55,645	2,118
1898-99	28,245	1,24,818	1,65,705	1,524
1899-1900	28,550	1,37,183	1,68,970	1,548
1900-01	34,444	1,37,546	1,74,508	2,026
1901-02	31,858	1,51,126	1,86,069	3,336
1902-03	29,040	1,49,349	1,81,365	2,837
1903-04	25,791	1,35,591	1,64,146	2,899
1904-05	26,752	1,44,145	1,73,895	3,125
1905-06	29,987	1,37,864	1,70,422	2,954
1906-07	29,376	1,42,517	1,74,592	3,461
1907-08	36,671	1,44,682	1,84,222	3,229
1908-09				
1909-10				
1910-11				
1911-12				
1912-13				
1913-14				
1914-15				
1915-16				
1916-17				
1917-18				

TABLE XIII.—*Income-tax.*

Year.	Total receipts.	Collected by companies.		Profits of companies.		Other sources, Part IV.*				Total charges.	Objections under Part IV.	
						Under Rs. 2,000.		Over Rs. 2,000.				
		Assessees.	Tax.	Assessees.	Tax.	Assessees.	Tax.	Assessees.	Tax.		Number filed.	Wholly or partly successful.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13
	Rs.		Rs.		Rs.		Rs.		Rs.	Rs.		
1890-91	32,572	...	...	...	...	1,306	...	...	28,671	884	481	134
1891-92	32,141	...	...	...	...	1,360	...	...	28,257	569	541	219
1892-93	31,262	...	...	...	...	1,344	...	...	27,334	454	668	261
1893-94	31,246	...	...	...	...	1,139	17,875	102	9,170	740	477	168
1894-95	32,188	...	...	...	...	1,175	17,906	116	9,916	337	574	225
1895-96	32,101	...	...	...	...	1,156	17,830	113	9,950	108	638	293
1896-97	34,458	...	...	...	...	1,217	19,270	111	10,449	468	804	426
1897-98	27,638	...	...	...	...	1,057	15,444	66	7,485	251	636	207
1898-99	33,109	...	...	...	...	1,169	18,574	102	10,231	384	696	156
1899-1900 ...	36,643	...	...	...	...	1,253	20,197	115	11,032	304	750	195
1900-01	37,128	...	...	...	...	1,231	19,723	121	11,760	1,106	717	199
1901-02	40,266	...	...	...	...	1,237	20,552	140	13,490	715	774	216
1902-03	40,366	...	...	...	...	479	7,954	65	6,110	136	820	227
1903-04	27,765	...	...	...	...	353	9,585	107	9,999	128	457	151
1904-05	26,291	...	...	...	...	415	11,303	114	10,182	125	365	149
1905-06	24,220	...	...	...	...	376	10,497	95	8,717	16	308	66
1906-07	24,523	...	...	...	...	382	12,451	98	9,076	76	264	44
1907-08	24,392	...	...	...	...	379	10,240	99	8,194	28	261	63
1908-09												
1909-10												
1910-11												
1911-12												
1912-13												

* Separate figures of assessees and tax for incomes under Rs. 2,000 and over Rs. 2,000 are not available till 1892-93.

TABLE XIV.—*Income-tax by Tahsils (Part IV only).*

Year.	Tahsil Azamgarh. Under Rs. 2,000. Assessees.	Tahsil Azamgarh. Under Rs. 2,000. Tax.	Tahsil Azamgarh. Over Rs. 2,000. Assessees.	Tahsil Azamgarh. Over Rs. 2,000. Tax.
1	2	3	4	5
		Rs.		Rs.
1898-99 ...	235	3,694	16	2,094
1899-1900	249	4,252	18	2,531
1900-01 ...	240	3,953	21	2,642
1901-02 ...	276	4,956	24	3,397
1902-03 ...	(Not available).			
1903-04 ...	89	2,354	23	2,688
1904-05 ...	90	2,435	31	3,137
1905-06 ...	89	2,471	29	2,927
1906-07 ...	93	2,547	29	3,064
1907-08 ...	94	2,528	31	2,846
1908-09 ...				
1909-10 ...				
1910-11 ...				
1911-12 ...				
1912-13 ...				
1913-14 ...				
1914-15 ...				
1915-16 ...				
1916-17 ...				
1917-18 ...				

Year.	Tahsil Deogaon. Under Rs. 2,000. Assessees.	Tahsil Deogaon. Under Rs. 2,000. Tax.	Tahsil Deogaon. Over Rs. 2,000. Assessees.	Tahsil Deogaon. Over Rs. 2,000. Tax.
1	2	3	4	5
		Rs.		Rs.
1898-99 ..	190	2,613	10	713
1899-1900	203	2,768	13	990
1900-01 ...	182	2,519	12	846
1901-02 ...	191	2,679	15	1,119
1902-03 ...	192	2,859	14	1,040
1903-04 ...	58	1,473	12	937
1904-05 ...	57	1,462	13	955
1905-06 ...	51	1,436	9	803
1906-07 ...	51	1,357	9	828
1907-08 ...	49	1,197	14	1,053
1908-09 ...				
1909-10 ...				
1910-11 ...				
1911-12 ...				
1912-13 ...				
1913-14 ...				
1614-15 ...				
1915-16 ...				
1916-17 ...				
1917-18 ...				

TABLE XIV.—*Income-tax by Tahsils (Part IV only)*—(continued).

Year.	Tahsil Mahul. Under Rs. 2,000 Assessees.	Tax.	Over Rs. 2,000. Assessees.	Tax.	Year.	Tahsil Sagri. Under Rs. 2,000. Assessees.	Tax.	Over Rs. 2,000. Assessees.	Tax.
1	2	3	4	5	1	2	3	4	5
		Rs.		Rs.			Rs.		Rs.
1898-99 ...	252	3,736	14	839	1898-99 ...	260	4,564	33	4,512
1899-1900,	289	4,194	15	956	1899-1900,	287	5,042	36	4,220
1900-01 ...	282	4,160	19	1,266	1900-01 ...	305	5,157	39	4,894
1901-02 ...	266	3,980	19	1,314	1901-02 ...	290	5,040	43	4,973
1902-03 ...	Not available.				1902-03 ...	287	5,095	51	5,071
1903-04 ...					1903-04 ...	93	2,574	44	4,279
1904-05 ...	57	1,667	15	994	1904-05 ...	41	1,106	9	1,074
1905-06 ...	55	1,566	7	401	1905-06 ...	36	1,006	10	1,114
1906-07 ...	56	1,603	7	426	1906-07 ...	39	1,090	9	1,097
1907-08 ...	52	1,417	7	410	1907-08 ...	39	1,105	9	1,026
1908-09 ...					1908-09 ...				
1909-10 ...					1909-10 ...				
1910-11 ...					1910-11 ...				
1911-12 ...					1911-12 ...				
1912-13 ...					1912-13 ...				
1913-14 ...					1913-14 ...				
1914-15 ...					1914-15 ...				
1915-16 ...					1915-16 ...				
1916-17 ...					1916-17 ...				
1917-18 ...					1917-18 ...				

TABLE XIV.—*Income-tax by Tahsils (Part IV only)*—(concluded).

Year.	Tahsil Muhammadabad. Under Rs. 2,000. Assessees.	Under Rs. 2,000. Tax.	Over Rs. 2,000. Assessees.	Over Rs. 2,000. Tax.
1	2	3	4	5
		Rs.		Rs.
1898-99 ...	232	3,967	29	2,073
1899-1900,	225	3,941	33	2,335
1900-01 ...	222	3,934	30	2,112
1901-02 ...	214	3,897	39	2,988
1902-03 ...	Not available.			
1903-04 ...	113	3,184	28	2,094
1904-05 ...	98	2,668	15	1,004
1905-06 ...	88	2,448	12	854
1906-07 ...	83	2,316	20	1,428
1907-08 ...	77	3,162	20	1,368
1908-09 ...				
1909-10 ...				
1910-11 ...				
1911-12 ...				
1912-13 ...				
1913-14 ...				
1914-15 ...				
1915-16 ...				
1916-17 ...				
1917-18 ...				

Year.	Tahsil Ghosi. Under Rs. 2,000. Assessees.	Under Rs. 2,000. Tax.	Over Rs. 2,000. Assessees.	Over Rs. 2,000. Tax.
1	2	3	4	5
		Rs.		Rs.
1898-99 ...	Not available.			
1899-1900				
1900-01 ...				
1901-02 ...				
1902-03 ...				
1903-04 ...				
1904-05 ...	72	1,965	31	3,020
1905-06 ...	57	1,570	28	2,618
1906-07 ...	60	3,538	24	2,232
1907-08 ...	68	1,831	18	1,491
1908-09 ...				
1909-10 ...				
1910-11 ...				
1911-12 ...				
1912-13 ...				
1913-14 ...				
1914-15 ...				
1915-16 ...				
1916-17 ...				
1917-18 ...				

TABLE XV.—*District Board.*

Year.	Receipts.							Expenditure.									
	Education.	Medical.	Scientific, &c.	Miscellaneous.	Civil works.	Pounds.	Ferries.	Total expenditure.	Contributions to Provincial funds.	General administration.	Education.	Medical.	Scientific, &c.	Miscellaneous.	Civil works.	Pounds.	Debt.
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18
	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
1890-91 ...	2,008	2,338	...	588	...	3,732	...	71,460	...	950	23,625	8,076	...	1,377	37,432	...	...
1891-92 ...	1,842	2,255	...	577	...	3,409	...	65,765	...	1,041	23,316	8,581	...	1,373	31,454	...	...
1892-93 ...	1,902	1,911	...	652	...	3,409	...	62,826	...	1,177	25,349	9,047	...	1,373	25,880	...	...
1893-94 ...	2,085	2,208	...	916	...	2,506	...	78,439	...	919	25,136	8,255	...	1,258	42,871	...	...
1894-95 ...	2,353	6,037	...	654	...	900	...	1,04,797	...	938	25,576	13,029	...	858	64,396	...	...
1895-96 ...	2,573	2,825	...	899	599	3,132	...	71,960	...	937	25,033	9,090	...	229	36,671	...	...
1896-97 ...	2,741	2,676	...	931	880	3,013	...	71,065	...	920	25,512	9,496	...	245	34,892	...	...
1897-98 ...	2,786	2,697	...	24	1,814	1,709	...	1,14,844	43,405	981	26,586	9,990	...	...	33,882	...	...
1898-99 ...	3,101	2,989	...	920	2,114	1,848	...	1,17,283	40,783	1,544	26,849	9,984	...	...	37,788	...	335
1899-1900 ...	3,714	2,183	...	1,828	7,798	*6,231	...	1,24,127	40,000	1,638	29,095	10,220	60	111	35,773	3,791	3,439
1900-01 ...	3,803	2,733	...	933	6,326	8,555	†2,167	1,17,014	23,680	2,052	32,744	11,843	...	122	36,714	4,959	4,900
1901-02 ...	5,905	3,752	...	39	6,452	5,436	2,101	1,31,875	23,000	2,105	34,285	12,152	...	143	53,630	3,160	3,400
1902-03 ...	6,921	4,769	...	63	6,044	5,410	2,520	1,21,585	3,133	1,992	38,553	11,997	263	19	59,493	2,775	3,360
1903-04 ...	4,851	3,916	...	81	6,257	5,298	2,250	1,19,236	17,000	1,988	40,415	12,853	490	105	43,071	2,954	360
1904-05 ...	5,370	3,957	...	205	4,067	5,620	2,784	1,27,077	14,997	2,342	40,260	12,501	446	228	53,354	2,876	73
1905-06 ...	5,265	3,753	...	189	1,241	5,631	2,335	1,46,542	...	2.500	49,703	13,603	442	445	77,003	2,706	140
1906-07 ...	5,830	3,793	...	150	1,143	6,412	6,973	1,41,899	...	2,825	51,765	13,332	538	496	69,591	2,722	630
1907-08 ...	4,666	3,645	...	192	1,662	6,779	6,852	1,40,850	...	3,768	54,552	14,263	680	720	64,096	2,696	75
1908-09 ...																	
1909-10 ...																	
1910-11 ...																	
1911-12 ...																	
1912-13 ...																	
1913-14 ...																	

* Formerly net receipts only were shown. From this year receipts and also expenditure are given.
† From this year the gross receipts from ferries were for the first time credited to the District Board.

TABLE XVI.—*Municipality of Azamgarh.*

Year.	Income.							Expenditure.									
	Octroi.	Tax on houses and lands.	Other taxes.	Rents.	Loans.	Other sources.	Total.	Administration and collection of taxes.	Public safety.	Water supply and drainage.		Conservancy.	Hospitals and dispensaries.	Public works.	Public instructions.	Other heads.	Total.
										Capital.	Maintenance.						
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18
	Rs.		Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.	Rs.
1890-91 ..	9,596	....	2,959	22	....	3,272	15,849	2,277	2,250	....	1,257	2,750	834	2,973	506	1,347	14,194
1891-92 ..	9,119	....	2,954	385	....	3,258	15,716	2,834	2,466	119	401	5,127	784	2,367	542	1,937	16,570
1892-93 ..	9,037	....	3,072	342	....	1,652	14,103	2,649	2,292	....	290	4,271	925	648	576	1,407	13,058
1893-94 ..	8,982	....	3,140	337	....	10,086	22,545	2,359	2,723	....	145	3,885	813	4,089	480	1,617	16,111
1894-95 ..	10,209	....	3,177	235	....	3,367	16,988	2,665	2,650	....	9	4,160	1,828	8,164	525	1,380	21,381
1895-96 ..	9,534	....	3,333	466	....	2,312	15,645	2,389	2,599	....	86	5,301	1,630	1,115	540	4,307	17,967
1896-97 ..	8,816	....	3,166	479	5,000	7,284	24,745	2,611	2,956	293	....	4,693	1,180	451	650	11,942	24,776
1897-98 ..	8,360	....	3,066	506	....	1,175	13,107	2,481	3,116	20	254	5,743	1,235	599	750	820	15,018
1898-99 ..	9,614	....	3,204	539	....	1,754	15,111	2,668	2,948	....	1,494	3,064	1,240	764	756	1,533	14,467
1899-1900 ..	13,822	....	3,863	509	....	1,631	19,825	2,907	2,812	....	275	4,891	940	487	763	2,807	15,882
1900-01 ..	19,210	....	3,426	356	....	2,361	25,353	3,541	2,840	512	632	5,607	1,240	2,185	1,741	1,962	20,260
1901-02 ..	19,686	....	3,553	344	....	2,709	26,292	5,716	2,922	44	601	4,599	2,052	2,638	1,508	1,979	22,059
1902-03 ..	14,691	....	3,392	265	....	4,083	22,431	4,731	2,985	46	161	5,476	1,552	1,237	1,694	2,471	20,353
1903-04 ..	11,137	....	3,035	88	....	4,344	18,604	3,708	2,741	....	888	4,800	1,240	1,294	2,140	4,981	21,792
1904-05 ..	14,582	....	3,247	303	....	4,735	22,867	4,513	3,417	....	800	5,894	1,240	1,934	2,221	3,983	24,002
1905-06 ..	16,328	....	3,225	200	....	3,397	23,150	4,652	2,013	....	316	6,761	1,240	823	2,406	3,154	21,365
1906-07 ..	15,781	....	3,206	266	....	3,880	23,133	4,223	1,089	....	884	5,606	1,240	1,123	2,267	3,822	20,218
1907-08 ..	14,968	....	4,375	206	....	3,806	23,355	4,207	1,064	....	....	6,473	1,805	966	1,989	2,339	18,843
1908-09 ..																	
1909-10 ..																	
1910-11 ..																	
1911-12 ..																	
1912-13 ..																	
1913-14 ..																	
1914-15 ..																	
1915-16 ..																	
1916-17 ..																	
1917-18 ..																	

TABLE XVII.—*Distribution of Police*, 1908.

Thana.	Sub-Inspectors.	Head Constables.	Constables.	Municipal Police.	Town Police.		Rural Police.	Road Police.
					Daffadars.	Chaukidars.		
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
Sagri ...	3	1	12	...	...	...	125	6
Ahraula ...	2	1	12	...	...	...	116	...
Azamgarh ...	3	7	{ 12 30	} ...	...	...	99	6
Deogaon ...	2	1	12	...	...	...	100	...
Ghosi ...	2	1	12	...	...	...	123	4
Mau ...	3	1	12	...	...	...	121	2
Kopaganj ...	...	...	...	...	1	10	...	...
Chiriakot ...	2	1	12	...	...	5	117	4
Madhuban ...	2	1	12	...	...	...	136	...
Atraulia ...	2	1	12	...	1	3	116	...
Muhammadabad,	2	1	12	...	1	13	136	...
Maharajganj ...	2	1	12	...	...	4	118	...
Nizamabad ...	2	1	12	...	...	...	105	4
Didarganj ...	2	1	10	...	...	...	83	4
Gambhirpur ...	2	1	10	...	...	...	93	6
Tarwa ...	2	1	9	...	...	...	73	...
Mehnagar ...	2	1	6	...	...	...	78	...
Pawai ...	2	1	6	...	...	...	78	...
Sarai Mir ...	2	1	6	...	2	9	68	2
Dohrighat ...	2	1	6	...	1	5	50	4
Kandrapur ...	2	1	6	...	...	...	83	...
Bardha ...	2	1	7	...	...	...	55	4
Jahanaganj ...	2	1	6	...	...	...	83	2
Raunapar (out post),	2	1	6	...	...	...	63	...
Mubarakpur ...	1	...	3	...	...	...	...	...
Civil Reserve ...	6	13	74	...	...	...	...	...
Armed Police ...	1	15	121	...	...	...	...	...
Total ...	57	57°	450°	...	6	49	2,219	48

° Includes six head constables and 35 constables of the mounted constabulary police.

TABLE XVIII.—*Education.*

Year.	Total.			Secondary education.			Primary education.		
	Schools and Colleges.	Scholars.		Schools.	Scholars.		Schools.	Scholars.	
		Males.	Females.		Males.	Females.		Males.	Females
1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
1896-97 ...	168	7,264	142	12	1,108	...	155	6,093	142
1897-98 ...	185	7,544	162	12	1,055	...	172	6,392	162
1898-99 ...	181	8,617	119	11	1,031	...	169	7,496	119
1899-1900	216	10,699	156	11	1,077	...	204	9,532	156
1900-01 ...	231	11,340	238	11	1,092	...	220	10,248	238
1901-02 ...	233	12,377	140	11	1,252	...	222	11,125	140
1902-03 ...	265	14,572	150	11	1,333	...	254	13,239	150
1903-04 ...	267	14,400	162	11	1,224	...	256	13,176	162
1904-05 ...	267	14,187	207	11	1,462	...	256	12,725	207
1905-06 ...	303	15,162	296	11	1,028	...	292	14,134	296
1906-07 ...	327	15,559	995	11	1,131	...	316	14,428	995
1907-08 ...	327	17,028	732	11	1,669	...	316	15,359	732
1908-09 ...									
1909-10 ...									
1910-11 ...									
1911-12 ...									
1012-13 ...									
1913-14 ...									
1914-15 ...									
1915-16 ...									
1916-17 ...									
1917-18 ...									

List of Schools, 1909.

Tahsil.	Pargana.	School.	Class.	Average attendance.
		I.—Azamgarh City.		
Azamgarh or Nizamabad.	Nizamabad ...	Church Mission High School ...	Anglo-Vernacular (aided) ...	203
		National High School	Ditto ...	76
		Town School ...	Vernacular Secondary	198
		Training School ...	Lower Primary ...	150
		Training class ...	Ditto ...	6
		Free School ...	Ditto ...	60
		Ailwal ...	Lower Primary aided,	17
		Kot ...	Ditto ...	20
		Asifganj ...	Ditto ...	17
		Paharpur ...	Ditto ...	15
		Guru Tola ...	Girls' School, aided...	20
		Asifganj ...	Ditto ...	16
		II.—District.		
		Nizamabad, town school	Vernacular Secondary	96
		Ukraura ...	Upper Primary ...	93
		Sarai Rani ...	Ditto ...	86
		Gambhirpur ...	Ditto ...	104
		Bibipur Old ...	Ditto ...	98
		Ora ...	Ditto ...	71
		Sarai Mir ...	Ditto ...	88
		Sandhari ...	Ditto ...	65
		Gosari ...	Ditto ...	78
		Sidhari, Patwaris' School.	Ditto ...	36
		Jagdispur ...	Ditto ...	28
		Nizamabad branch,	Lower Primary ...	121
		Kishundaspur ...	Ditto ...	41
		Unchagaon ...	Ditto ...	36
		Mataulipur ...	Ditto ...	38
		Mundiar ...	Ditto ...	20
		Anwank ...	Ditto ...	46
		Sanjarpur ...	Ditto ...	45
		Lahabaria ...	Ditto ...	56
		Muslimpatti ...	Ditto ...	32
		Abdiha ...	Ditto ...	30
		Mangrawan ...	Ditto ...	38
		Nandaon ...	Ditto ...	32
		Fatahpur ...	Lower Primary aided,	15
		Ghurepur ...	Ditto ...	17
		Purabpatti ...	Ditto ...	48
		Muhammadpur ...	Ditto ...	18
		Deokhari ...	Ditto ...	18
		Barsara Aima ...	Ditto ...	20
		Lachhrampur ...	Ditto ...	35
		Jafarpur ...	Ditto ...	33
		Siuli ...	Ditto ...	22

List of Schools, 1909—(continued).

Tahsil.	Pargana.	School.	Class.	Average attendnace.
		II—DISTRICT—(*contd*).		
Azamgarh or Nizamabad.—(*concld.*)	Nizamabad.—(*concld.*)	Bhaduli ...	Lower Primadry, aided	20
		Majagawan ...	Ditto ...	16
		Baddupur ...	Ditto ...	15
		Banbirpur ...	Ditto ...	18
		Gambhirban ...	Ditto ...	31
		Arara ...	Ditto ...	32
		Parvezabad ...	Ditto ...	22
		Tikrapur ...	Ditto ...	30
		Phariha ...	Ditto ...	21
		Ranipur Rajmau ...	Lower Primary, Girls' School.	14
		Sanjarpur ...	Ditto ...	18
		Dharni ...	Court of Wards' School.	20
Deogaon.	Bela Daulatabad.	Thekman ...	Upper Primary ...	86
		Mehnagar ...	Ditto ...	71
		Diha ...	Ditto ...	34
		Khajuri ...	Lower Primary, aided.	39
		Bikapur ...	Ditto ...	15
		Umari Kalan ...	Ditto ...	21
		Paskra ...	Ditto ..	18
		Karenhuan ...	Ditto ...	38
		Nai ...	Ditto ...	29
		Diha, branch ...	Ditto ...	19
		Beohara ...	Ditto ...	21
		Bachhwal ...	Ditto ...	20
		Benupur ...	Ditto ...	25
	Belhabans...	Kutahan ...	Upper Primary ...	68
		Tandwa ...	Ditto ...	57
		Kamharia ...	Lower Primary ...	31
		Bansgaon ...	Ditto ...	31
		Sivarampur ...	Ditto ...	30
		Bibipur ...	Ditto ...	23
		Sarai Bindraban ...	Ditto ...	23
		Mahuari ...	Lower Primary, Girls' School.	22
	Deogaon ...	Deogaon ...	Vernacular Secondary,	62
		Rasulpur ...	Upper Primary ...	51
		Kanjihit ...	Ditto ...	59
		Lalganj ...	Ditto ...	52
		Sidhauna ...	Ditto ...	30
		Dathaon ...	Ditto ...	65
		Mehnajpur ...	Ditto ...	62
		Jiuli ...	Ditto ...	31
		Deogaon branch ...	Lower Primary ...	57
		Bahadurpur ...	Ditto ...	45

List of Schools, 1909—(continued).

Tahsil.	Pargana.	School.	Class.	Average attendance.
		II—DISTRICT—(*contd*).		
Deogaon.—(*concld.*)	Deogaon.—(*concld.*)	Hadsa ...	Lower Primary ...	32
		Kurahra ...	Ditto ...	32
		Chouki ...	Ditto ...	29
		Bhanwarpur ...	Ditto ...	35
		Jiapur ...	Ditto ...	40
		Uchhahuwan ...	Ditto ...	33
		Lauhan Kalan ...	Ditto ...	32
		Lauhan Khurd ...	Ditto ...	33
		Tarwa ...	Ditto ...	23
		Salimpur ...	Lower Primary, aided	20
		Bharthipur ...	Ditto ...	20
		Dabhaon ...	Ditto ...	18
		Jinli ...	Ditto ...	28
		Kalichabad ...	Ditto ...	36
		Qariagopalpur ...	Ditto ...	25
		Sarawan ...	Ditto ...	21
		Mundahar ...	Ditto ...	20
		Mokalpur ...	Ditto ...	21
Mahul or Ahraula.	Kauria. ...	Koelsa ...	Upper Primary ...	138
		Pipri ...	Lower Primary ...	43
		Sihora ...	Lower Primary, aided	25
		Mangitpur ...	Ditto ...	20
		Alowa ...	Ditto ...	15
		Bharauli ...	Ditto ...	12
		Lilapatti ...	Ditto ...	28
		Bhatauli ...	Ditto ...	46
		Kauria ...	Ditto ...	25
		Bazidpur ...	Ditto ...	36
		Oradand ...	Ditto ...	20
		Bhilampur Chhapra,	Lower Primary, aided Girls' School.	17
	Mahul ...	Mahul ...	Vernacular Secondary,	59
		Ahraula ...	Upper Primary ...	105
		Pawai ...	Ditto ...	99
		Didarganj ...	Ditto ...	67
		Sahauli ...	Ditto ...	68
		Lasra Khurd ...	Lower Primary ...	25
		Surhan ...	Ditto ...	38
		Pakhraul ...	Ditto ...	42
		Phulpur ...	Ditto ...	59
		Mutakalipur ...	Lower Primary, aided	12
		Kusalgaon ...	Ditto ...	18
		Basti Kapuri ...	Ditto ...	24
		Singarpur ...	Ditto ...	28
		Khair-ud-dinpur ...	Ditto ...	12
		Rainapur ...	Ditto ...	28
		Kurauja ...	Ditto ...	16

List of Schools, 1909—(continued).

Tahsil.	Pargana.	School.	Class.	Average attendance.
		II—DISTRICT—(*contd*)		
Mahul or Ahraula.	Mahul ...	Shukulpura ...	Lower Primary, aided,	21
		Rangdih ...	Ditto ...	13
		Barauna ...	Ditto ...	15
		Dariyapur ...	Ditto ...	25
		Takia Gulam Ali Shah,	Ditto ...	17
		Harshankarpur ...	Ditto ...	22
		Sukhipur ...	Ditto ...	19
		Bastibhojial ...	Ditto ...	23
		Saron ...	Ditto ...	20
		Shahjiarpur ...	Ditto ...	13
		Mittupur ...	Ditto ...	38
		Sulaimanpur ...	Ditto ...	13
		Mahul ...	Lower Primary, aided, Girls' School.	3
	Atraulia...	Atraulia ...	Upper Primary ...	104
		Nariaon ...	Ditto ...	98
		Atrait ...	Lower Primary ...	60
		Bhagatpur ...	Ditto ...	28
		Harshankarpur ...	Lower Primary, aided,	30
		Behra Buzurg ...	Ditto ...	20
		Keshopur ...	Ditto ...	18
		Gaura ...	Ditto ...	16
		Khalispur ...	Ditto ...	15
		Kotwalipur ...	Ditto ...	18
		Bodhipatti ...	Ditto ...	31
		Jogipur ...	Ditto ...	13
		Lohara ...	Ditto ...	23
		Rukmalpur ...	Ditto ...	15
		Bansgaon ...	Ditto ...	34
		Basantpatti ...	Ditto ...	24
		Panti ...	Ditto ...	18
		Barhaia ...	Ditto ...	16
		Bhagatpur ...	Lower Primary, aided Girls' School.	15
		Jogipur ...	Ditto ...	12
		Saraiyan ...	Ditto ...	12
Sagri.	Sagri ...	Jianpur ...	Vernacular Secondary,	84
		Miria ...	Upper Primary ...	81
		Azmatgarh ...	Ditto ...	67
		Bilariaganj ...	Ditto ...	86
		Bankat ...	Ditto ...	64
		Bazar Gosain ...	Ditto ...	80
		Jokahara ...	Ditto ...	48
		Raunapar ...	Ditto ...	57
		Aunti ...	Lower Primary ...	33

List of Schools, 1909—(continued).

Tahsil.	Pargana.	School.	Class.	Average attendance.
		II—DISTRICT—(*contd*)		
Sagri—(*concld*).	Sagri.—(*concld.*)	Anjan Shahid ...	Lower Primary ...	47
		Ramagarh ...	Ditto ...	4[illegible]
		Taroka ...	Ditto ...	42
		Manduri ...	Ditto ...	5[illegible]
		Jairajpur ...	Ditto ...	3[illegible]
		Karkhia ...	Ditto ...	3[illegible]
		Nainijor ...	Ditto ...	42
		Bardiha ...	Ditto ...	48
		Barnapur ...	Ditto ...	55
		Jianpur Training class	Ditto ...	6
		Bindwal ...	Lower Primary aided,	29
		Khalispur ...	Ditto ...	30
		Karmaini ...	Ditto ...	20
		Chandpatti ...	Ditto ...	14
		Dhanchhula ...	Ditto ...	37
		Kaithauli ...	Ditto ...	29
		Patwadh ...	Ditto ...	26
		Bankat ...	Lower Primary, aided Girls' School.	...
	Gopalpur...	Maharajganj ...	Upper Primary ...	102
		Jamilpur ...	Ditto ...	83
		Captainganj ...	Ditto ...	30
		Sherpur ...	Lower Primary ...	32
		Malnapur ...	Lower Primary, aided,	25
		Raghupur ...	Ditto ...	20
		Bibipur ...	Ditto ...	36
		Captainganj, Branch,	Ditto ...	34
		Bhatani ...	Ditto ...	27
		Maharajganj ...	Lower Primary, aided Girls' School ...	8
		Raghupur ...	Ditto ...	12
Muhammadabad.	Mau Nath-bhanjan.	Mau ...	Vernacular Secondary	58
		Mau, Branch ...	Lower Primary ...	71
		Mau ...	Lower Primary Girls' School ...	24
		Mau, Dakhan Tola...	Lower Primary, Girls' School, aided...	15
		Bakhtawarganj ...	Lower Primary, Boys' School, aided ...	19
	Qariat Mittu,	Dharwara ...	Upper Primary ...	67
		Kishunpur ...	Lower Primary, aided	21
		Mittupur ...	Ditto ...	27
		Ditto ...	Lower Primary, aided Girls' School ...	14
		Gadhaura ...	Ditto ...	16
	Chiriakot ...	Jahanaganj ...	Upper Primary ...	109
		Chiriakot ...	Ditto ...	113
		Saraundha ...	Lower Primary ...	23
		Sema ...	Lower Primary, aided	20

List of Schools, 1909—(continued).

Tahsil.	Pargana.	School.	Class.	Average attendance.
		II—DISTRICT—(*contd.*)		
Muhammadabad.—(*concld.*)	Chiriakot.—(*concld.*)	Bhojai ...	Lower Primary, aided,	20
		Bishunpura ...	Ditto ...	21
		Jagarsandi ...	Ditto ...	24
		Kajha ...	Ditto ...	26
		Khiria ...	Ditto ...	16
		Panrhi ...	Ditto ...	16
		Tandwa ...	Ditto ...	22
	Muhammadabad.	Muhammadabad ...	Vernacular Secondary	35
		Shahgarh ...	Upper Primary ...	96
		Walidpur ...	Ditto ...	40
		Mubarakpur ...	Ditto ...	76
		Malo ...	Ditto ...	53
		Fatehpur ...	Ditto ...	63
		Bakwal ...	Ditto ...	60
		Sathiaon ...	Ditto ...	49
		Ranbirpur ...	Ditto ...	40
		Ganjarpur ...	Ditto ...	61
		Sumendha ...	Lower Primary ...	22
		Muhammadabad Branch.	Ditto ...	66
		Bhadir ...	Ditto ...	34
		Pipri ...	Ditto ...	26
		Palia ...	Ditto ...	64
		Ujhauli ...	Ditto ...	30
		Amari ...	Ditto ...	32
		Raini ...	Lower Primary, aided,	18
		Anwar ...	Ditto ...	20
		Ghalibpur ...	Ditto ...	32
		Bagli Pingra ...	Ditto ...	17
		Amlau ...	Ditto ...	15
		Dholna ...	Ditto ...	16
		Bamhor ...	Ditto ...	28
		Fakhr-ud-dinpur ...	Ditto ...	39
		Kehnaur ...	Ditto ...	16
		Sheikhwara ...	Ditto ...	37
		Muhammadabad ...	Lower Primary, aided Girls' School,	12
		Zamin Baramadpur...	Ditto ...	10
Ghosi.	Ghosi ...	Ghosi ...	Vernacular Secondary,	72
		Surajpur ...	Ditto ...	68
		Kopaganj ...	Upper Primary ...	70
		Kandwa Sarai ...	Ditto ...	60
		Imla ...	Ditto ...	98
		Gontha ...	Ditto ...	106
		Pura Maruf ...	Ditto ...	79
		Ghosi, Branch ...	Lower Primary ...	100
		Mungmas ...	Ditto ...	38

List of Schools, 1909—(concluded).

Tahsil.	Pargana.	School.	Class.	Average attendance.
Ghosi.—(concld.)	Ghosi—(concld.)	II.—DISTRICT—(concld.)		
		Adri ...	Lower Primary ...	46
		Surajpur, Branch ...	Ditto ...	108
		Sahroz ...	Ditto ...	40
		Kasara ...	Ditto ...	33
		Sipah ...	Ditto ...	50
		Dohrighat ...	Ditto ...	46
		Katahari ...	Ditto ...	35
		Semari ...	Ditto ...	30
		Dohrighat ...	Lower Primary, aided Girls' School.	10
		Kauriapar ...	Lower Primary, aided Boys' School.	18
		Kopaganj ...	Ditto ...	37
		Pirhon ...	Ditto ...	23
		PuraMaru ...	Ditto ...	16
		Shakkarpur ...	Ditto ...	14
		Tengna ...	Ditto ...	22
		Barram ...	Ditto ...	17
		Misrauli ...	Ditto ...	17
		Kopaganj ...	Ditto ...	11
		Fatehpur, Tal Narja,	Ditto ...	14
		Pakri Buzurg ...	Ditto ...	28
		Pirhwal ...	Ditto ...	17
		Baragaon ...	Ditto ...	42
		Itaura ...	Lower Primary, aided.	29
		Ghosi ...	Lower Primary, aided Girls' School.	18
		Kurthi ...	Ditto ...	24
		Hamidpur ...	Ditto ...	19
		Jamuari ...	Ditto ...	12
		Imla ...	Ditto ...	12
	Natthupur...	Bibipur New ...	Upper Primary ...	56
		Dubari ...	Ditto ...	104
		Lakhnaur ...	Ditto ...	76
		Katghara Shankar ...	Ditto ...	98
		Hirajpatti ...	Lower Primary ...	81
		Dargah ...	Ditto ...	59
		Tajauli ...	Ditto ...	28
		Katghara Shankar ...	Lower Primary, Girls' School.	22
		Fatehpur, Tal Ratoi,	Lower Primary, Boys' aided.	21
		Rampur ...	Ditto ...	15
		Dhanai ...	Ditto ...	22
		Nimdand ...	Ditto ...	28
		Kunda ...	Ditto ...	20
		Rasri ...	Ditto ...	17
		Bhaironpur ...	Ditto ...	17
		Bela ...	Ditto ...	30
		Dubari ...	Lower Primary, Girls' School.	9

ROADS, 1909.

A.—PROVINCIAL.	Miles.	Fur.
(i) Gorakhpur, Dohrighat and Ghazipur trunk road ...	27	5
(ii) Allahabad, Jaunpur and Dohrighat ditto ...	57	4
Total ...	85	1
B.—LOCAL.		
I.—First class roads, metalled, bridged and drained throughout.		
(i) Azamgarh to Ghazipur	23	6
(ii) Azamgarh to Benares	19	4
(iii) Azamgarh to Fyzabad (*vide III-i*)	3	6
(iv) Rani Sarai to Pawai (*vide I-iv and II-xii*) ...	16	4
(v) Phulpur to Shahganj	10	2
(vi) Azamgarh to Mau	25	4
(vii) Azamgarh station road	5	0
(viii) Ghazipur branch road	2	2
(ix) Muhammadabad railway station approach road ...	0	4·35
(x) Khurhat railway station ditto ...	0	7·1
Total ...	107	7·36
II.—Second class roads, unmetalled, bridged and drained throughout.		
(i) Azamgarh to Fyzabad (*vide I-iii*)	25	0
(ii) Sarsena to Kajha (*vide I-i*)	2	2·64
(iii) Mahul to Amari (*vide II-iv*)	3	2
(iv) Muhammadpur to Phariha (*vide III-iv*) ...	1	0·82
(v) Maharajganj to Khamaria (*vide III-xvii*) ...	4	1·45
(vi) Maharajganj to Captainganj	4	7
(vii) Azamgarh to Bilariaganj (*vide IV-i*)	9	2
(viii) Muhammadpur to Mehnagar (*vide III-xxiv and II-ix*).	6	4
(ix) Bardah to Didarganj	14	5
(x) Chiriakot to Sultanipur (*vide IV-ix*)	1	4
(xi) Belha to Khamaria (*vide II-viii and III-xxiv*) ...	3	5·44
(xii) Phulpur to Belwai station, Oudh and Rohilkhand Railway.	17	3
(xiii) Ghagra river to Kondhi	4	0
(xiv) Chiriakot to Muhammadabad road	10	5·65
Total ...	108	3
III.—Third class roads, banked and surfaced, but not drained.		
(i) Ahraula to Atraulia	11	0
(ii) Azamgarh to Nizamabad (*vide II-xxiii*) ...	·7	3
(iii) Bhimpura to Bilauli	2	2

ROADS, 1909—(concluded).

		Miles.	Fur.
(iv)	Muhammadpur to Captainganj, *viâ* Nizamabad ...	13	5
(v)	Chiraiadand to Rajadepur	14	6
(vi)	Dhanauli to Surajpur	8	4
(vii)	Dharaura (Muhammadabad) to Kopaganj ...	11	2
(viii)	Dubari to Khirikota	5	3
(ix)	Ghosi to Jianpur	16	5
(x)	Ghosi to Nagra in Ballia	10	4
(xi)	Ahraula to Captainganj	14	0
(xii)	Maharajganj to Bhairondaspur	2	8
(xiii)	Chiriakot to Jiuli, *viâ* Tarva and Deogaon (*vide IV-ix and II-x*).	44	2
(xiv)	Didarganj to Amari (*vide II-iii*)	7	0
(xv)	Naraoni to Sidharighat	1	4
(xvi)	Jianpur to Maharajganj	14	0
(xvii)	Khamaria to Koelsa (*vide II-v*)	3	0
(xviii)	Muhammadabad to Kanjra Dilshadpur (Azmatgarh)...	7	4
(xix)	Manikpur Asna (Ghosi) to Uprauli (*vide III-ix and IV-vii*).	7	6
(xx)	Mau to Ranbirpur	6	0
(xxi)	Muhammadabad to Shahgarh, *viâ* Mubarakpur ...	11	4
(xxii)	Walidpur to Nandwa Sarai	6	2
(xxiii)	Rani Sarai to Shahjiarpur, *viâ* Nizamabad ...	18	1
(xxiv)	Mahul to Koelsa, *viâ* Ahraula	16	0
(xxv)	Ramgarh to Latghat (*vide IV-vi*)	5	1
(xxvi)	Mehnagar to Tarwa (*vide II-ix*)	12	0
(xxvii)	Chiriakot to the Ghazipur boundary	7	0
	Total ...	285	0

IV.—Fourth class roads, banked but not surfaced, partially bridged and drained.

		Miles.	Fur.
(i)	Abhimanpatti to Bhagatpur	8	2
(ii)	Ghosi to Dargah	8	0
(iii)	Anjwa to Ramgarh	1	4
(iv)	Are to Shamsabad	23	4
(v)	Bazar Gosain to Khamauli Kalan	1	2
(vi)	Bilariaganj to Ramgarh (*vide III-xxv*)	4	6
(vii)	Chakaut to Pharsadandh (*vide III-xix*) ...	14	0
(viii)	Chapri to Maharajganj	4	6
(ix)	Mau to Sultanipur (*vide III-xiii*)	15	0
(x)	Sharf-ud-din to Shahgarh	7	0
(xi)	Jianpur to Mubarakpur	5	0
(xii)	Rani Sarai to Mehnagar	18	0
(xiii)	Raunapar to Rajadepur	9	6
	Total ...	120	6
	GRAND TOTAL ...	707	1·36

FERRIES, 1909.

River.	Name of ferry.	Village.	Pargana.	Tahsil.	Management.	Income.
						Rs.
Ghagra.	Basai ...	Maharajganj,	Gopalpur,	Sagri,	District Board, Gorakhpur.	...
	Belwa ...	Ditto	Ditto	Ditto	Ditto	...
	Shahpur-Jhapatia.	Jhapatia ...	Ditto	Ditto	Ditto	...
	Gola Nainijor,	Nainijor ...	Sagri ...	Ditto	Ditto	...
	Dohrighat ...	Dohri ...	Ghosi ...	Ghosi,	Leased by the Public Works, Department.	...
	Rajpur Takia,	Nasrullahpur.	Ditto	Ditto	District Board, Azamgarh.	50
	Dahia Kharauti,	Surajpur ...	Ditto	Ditto	Ditto	215
	Barhaj Dharampur.	Dharampur,	Natthupur,	Ditto	Ditto	2,350
	Painar Baroha,	Baroha ...	Ditto	Ditto	Ditto	225

POST-OFFICES, 1909.

Tahsil.	Pargana.	Office.	Class.
Azamgarh.	Nizamabad ...	Azamgarh ...	Head office, combined.
		Azamgarh city ...	Sub-office.
		Azamgarh railway station...	Branch office.
		Nizamabad ...	Sub-office.
		Phulpur ...	Ditto.
		Sarai Mir ...	Ditto.
		Gambhirpur ...	Ditto.
		Muhammadpur ...	Branch office.
		Sarai Rani ...	Ditto.
Deogaon.	Bela Daulatabad ...	Mehnagar ...	Sub-office.
		Thekmau ...	Branch office.
	Deogaon ...	Deogaon ...	Sub-office.
		Bardah ...	Ditto.
		Lalganj ...	Branch office.
		Mehnajpur ...	Ditto.
		Tarhwah ...	Ditto.
Mahul.	Kauria ...	Koelsa	Branch office.
		Taharbazidpur ...	Ditto.
	Mahul ...	Mahul	Sub-office.
		Phulpur	Ditto.
		Didarganj	Ditto.
		Pawai	Ditto.
	Atraulia ...	Ahraula	Sub-office.
		Atraulia	Ditto.
Sagri.	Sagri ...	Sagri	Sub-office.
		Kandhrapur	Ditto.
		Bankat	Branch office.
		Latghat	Ditto.
		Raunapar	Ditto.
		Bilariaganj	Ditto.
	Gopalpur ...	Maharajganj	Sub-office.
		Sardaha ...	Branch office.
Muhammadabad.	Mau Nathbhanjan ...	Mau Nathbhanjan ...	Sub-office, combined.
		Sarhau	Branch office.
	Chiriakot ...	Chiriakot	Sub-office.
		Jahanaganj	Ditto.
	Muhammadabad ...	Muhammadabad ...	Sub-office.
		Mubarakpur	Sub-office, combined.
		Khurhat	Branch office.

POST-OFFICES, 1909—(concluded).

Tahsil.	Pargana.	Office.	Class.
Ghosi.	Ghosi ...	Dohrighat	Sub-office, combined.
		Ghosi	Sub-office.
		Kopaganj	Ditto.
		Surajpur	Branch office.
		Imla	Ditto.
		Majhwara	Ditto.
		Nandwa Sarai... ...	Ditto.
	Natthupur ...	Madhuban	Sub-office.
		Rampur	Ditto.

MARKETS, 1909.

Tahsil.	Pargana.	Village.	Market days.
Azamgarh or Nizamabad.	Nizamabad ...	Azamgarh ...	Sunday and Thursday.
		Sarai Mir ...	Sunday and Wednesday.
		Nizamabad ...	Monday and Thursday.
		Sarai Rani ...	No fixed day.
Deogaon.	Bela-Daulatabad.	Thekmau ...	Monday and Friday.
		Mehnagar ...	Tuesday and Saturday.
	Deogaon ...	Deogaon ...	Tuesday and Saturday.
		Lalganj ...	Sunday and Wednesday.
		Daryapur, *alias* Nathwara.	Monday.
		Sidhauna ...	Friday.
		Mehnajpur ...	Saturday.
Ahraula or Mahul.	Kauria ...	Koelsa ...	Monday and Friday.
		Bazidpur ...	Tuesday and Saturday.
	Mahul ...	Palhni ...	Sunday.
		Mittupur ...	Sunday and Wednesday.
		Birauna ...	Sunday and Thursday.
		Mahul ...	Monday and Friday.
		Pawai ...	Ditto.
		Phulpur ...	Tuesday and Saturday.
	Atraulia ...	Hasnadih ...	Sunday and Wednesday.
		Makhanha ...	Sunday and Thursday.
		Atraulia ...	Monday and Friday.
		Atraulia ...	Monday and Thursday.
		Atraith ...	Tuesday and Saturday.
Sagri.	Sagri ...	Jianpur ...	Sunday and Thursday.
		Latghat ...	Ditto.
		Chandpatti ...	Ditto.
		Julahapur ...	Ditto.
		Azmatgarh ...	Monday and Saturday.
		Satnan ...	Monday and Friday.
		Bhimbhar, (Piparha Dulya Bhar).	Ditto.
		Bankat ...	Tuesday and Friday.
		Bilariaganj ...	Wednesday and Saturday.
		Anjan Shehid ...	Ditto.
		Bazar Gosain ...	Ditto.
		Kankh Bhar ...	Ditto.
		Mahula ...	Tuesday and Friday.
		Patwadh ...	Monday and Thursday.

MARKETS, 1909.—(*concluded*).

Tahsil.	Pargana.	Village.	Market days.
Sagri.—(*concld*).	Gopalpur ...	Maharajganj	Sunday and Thursday.
		Sheopur	Monday and Thursday.
		Captainganj	Monday and Friday.
		Semra	Wednesday and Saturday
		Sardaha	Ditto.
	Mau Nathbhanjan	Sarhau (Mau) ...	Daily.
Muhammadabad.	Chiriakot ...	Jahanaganj	Monday and Thursday.
		Barhalganj	Tuesday and Saturday.
		Chhapra, Chak Badr-ud-din.	Friday.
	Muhammad-abad.	Mubarakpur	Sunday and Thursday.
		Walidpur	Ditto.
		Amlau, Muhalla Katra...	Monday and Thursday.
		Deokali	Monday and Friday.
		Nagpur	Ditto.
		Walidpur, Bhira ...	Ditto.
		Shahgarh	Sunday and Wednesday.
		Bara Sanichra ...	Wednesday and Saturday
		Muhammadabad ...	Ditto.
		Khairabad	Tuesday and Friday.
		Khurhat	Monday.
		Dih ...	Friday.
Ghosi.	Ghosi ...	Kodhni	Sunday.
		Chiraiadand	Ditto.
		Kopaganj	Sunday, Wednesday and Friday
		Gontha	Sunday and Thursday.
		Pura Sheikh Maruf ...	Ditto.
		Ghosi	Ditto.
		Rasulpur	Monday and Thursday.
		Adri	Monday and Friday.
		Baragaon	Ditto.
		Bojhi	Tuesday.
		Pindhwal	Tuesday and Saturday.
		Imla	Wednesday and Saturday
		Kasela Bela	Ditto.
		Muhammadabad Sipah,	Saturday.
	Natthupur ...	Sipah	Sunday.
		Fatehpur	Sunday and Wednesday.
		Dargah, Chak Mamu ...	Sunday and Thursday.
		Ghaziapur	Ditto.
		Rampur...	Monday and Thursday.
		Katghara Shankar ...	Tuesday.
		Kath Taraus... ...	Tuesday and Thursday.
		Bhaironpur	Friday.
		Lakhnaur (Anjurpur)...	Saturday.

FAIRS, 1909.

Tahsil.	Pargana.	Locality.	Name of fair.	Date.	Approximate average attendance.
Azamgarh or Nizamabad.	Nizamabad,	Azamgarh ...	Dasahra ...	Kuar Sudi 10th ...	15,000
		Nizamabad ...	Ditto ...	Ditto ...	2,000
		Sarai Rani ...	Ditto ...	Ditto ...	1,000
		Darbasa ...	Puranmashi ...	Katik Sudi Puranmashi.	20 000
		Ghauspur ...	Ditto ...	Ditto ...	1,000
		Haria Silninadi	Ditto ...	Ditto ...	1,000
		Anwank ...	Ramnaumi ...	Chait Sudi 9th,	1,000
		Jahanianpur...	Dargah ...	Ziqad 28th & 29th,	1,000
Deogaon.	Bela-Daulatabad	Thekmau ...	Dasahra ...	Kuar Sudi 10th ...	900
		Mehnagar ...	Ditto ...	Ditto ...	800
	Belhabans ...	Tandwa ...	Bhawani ...	Chait Sudi 9th ...	1,100
	Deogaon ...	Deogaon ...	Dasahra ...	Kuar Sudi 10th ...	1,100
		Lalganj ...	Ditto ...	Ditto ...	1,100
		Sidhauna ...	Ditto ...	Ditto ...	700
		Ditto ...	Bhawani ...	Chait Sudi 9th ...	1,500
		Palhna ...	Ditto ...	Ditto ...	1,400
		Singhpur ...	Ditto ...	Ditto ...	1,100
Ahraula or Mahul.	Kauria ...	Usar Kadhwa,	Bhaironji ...	Jeth Sudi 10th ...	1,00[illegible]
	Mahul ...	Shah Raja ...	Shah Raja ...	Aghan Badi 10th,	3.90[illegible]
		Shamshabad,	Darbasa ...	Kartik Sudi Puranmashi	8,25[illegible]
		Kumh ...	Sheoratri ...	Phagun Sudi 13th,	2,36[illegible]
		Ditto ...	Ramnaumi ...	Chait Sudi 9th ...	1,24[illegible]
		Pawai ...	Sobhat ...	Jeth Puranmashi...	1,00[illegible]
	Atraulia	Saraiyan ...	Shah Panhari,	Every Monday ...	50[illegible]
		Amdi ...	Gobind Sahib,	Aghan Sudi 10th	1,00[illegible]
Sagri.	Sagri ...	Sundarpur ...	Bijai Dashmi (Dasahra)	Kuar Sudi 10th ...	2,0[illegible]
		Khanqah Bahram.	Ditto ...	Ditto ...	2,0[illegible]
		Azmatgarh,	Ditto ...	Ditto ...	1,5[illegible]
		Latghat ...	Ditto ...	Ditto ...	5[illegible]
		Kankhbhar,	Ditto ...	Ditto ...	[illegible]
		Bankat ...	Ditto ...	Ditto ...	1,[illegible]
		Bazar Gosain,	Ditto ...	Ditto ...	2,[illegible]
		Nainijor ...	Puranmashi ...	Kartik Sudi Puranmashi.	1,[illegible]
		Jianpur ...	Dargah (Shah	Muharram, 22nd,	3[illegible]
		Bhagatpur ...	Lahra Sobhat...	Baisakh Sudi, 13th,	4[illegible]

FAIRS, 1909—(continued).

Tahsil.	Pargana.	Locality.	Name of fair.	Date.	Approximate average attendance.
Sagri.—(*concld.*)	Gopalpur...	Chhintona ...	Bijai Dashmi or Dasahra.	Kuar Sudi, 10th ...	2,000
		Jamilpur ...	Ditto ...	Ditto ...	2,000
		Ghurhupatti,	Ditto ...	Ditto ...	1,000
		Bairia ...	Ditto ...	Ditto ...	1,000
		Maharajganj,	Ditto ...	Ditto ...	2,000
		Ditto	Bhaironji ...	Puranmashi in every month.	500
		Ditto	Ditto ...	Jeth Sudi, 10th ...	8,000
		Lachhman-kund.	Dhanusyug ...	Aghan Sudi 5th ...	1,000
Muhammadabad.	Mau Nathbhanjan	Sarhan, Mutalliqa Mau.	Ditto ...	Jeth ...	500
		Sarai Lakhansi, Mutalliqa Mau	Ditto ...	Ditto ...	500
		Jahangirabad, Mutalliqa Mau.	Ram Lila ...	Kuar Sudi, 10th ...	1,000
		Imlia ...	Dhanusyug ...	Aghan ...	300
		Ummanpur ...	Ram Lila ...	Kuar Sudi 10th ...	300
	Qariat Mittu.	Tari ...	Brahmajot Debi.	Chait Sudi 9th ...	500
	Chiriakot...	Sichuri Harkesh.	Bijai Dashmi or Dasahra.	Kuar Sudi, 10th ...	500
		Barahtir Jagdispur.	Ditto ...	Ditto ...	900
		Barhalganj ...	Ditto ...	Ditto ...	1,000
		Chiriakot, Muhalla Molnaganj.	Ditto ...	Ditto ...	1,000
		Ismailnagar, Mutalliqa Chiriakot.	Saiyid Salar Masud Ghazi.	Month of Jeth ...	500
		Simroa ...	Piagari ...	Chait Sudi, 9th and Kartik Sudi Puranmashi.	500
	Muhammadabad.	Deokali ...	Deolas ...	Kartik Sudi and Jeth	1,500
		Bhatpura Sufiganj.	Ditto ...	Kuar Sudi 10th ...	200
		Bara ...	Ditto ...	Ditto ...	280
		Bania Par ...	Ditto ...	Ditto ...	350
		Akbri ...	Ditto ...	Ditto ...	100
		Karhan, *mauza* Chak Jafari.	Ditto ...	Chait Sudi, 9th and Kartik Sudi Puranmashi.	800

FAIRS, 1909—(concluded).

Tahsil.	Pargana.	Locality.	Name of fair.	Date.	Approximate average attendance.
Muhammadabad—(concld.)	Muhammadabad—(concld.)	Palia ...	Deolas ...	Kuar Sudi 10th ...	300
		Muhammadabad.	Sohbat ...	Rajab 22nd* ...	100
		Nawada and Katra, Mutaliqa Amlau.	Ditto ...	1st Tuesday of Baisakh.	4,000
		Kamalpur ...	Ditto ...	Jeth Sudi 10th ...	100
		Mubarakpur...	Ditto ...	1st Tuesday of Baisakh.	4,000
		Shahgarh ...	Ditto ...	Ditto ...	200
		Ditto ...	Dasahra and Debi ki puja.	Kuar Sudi 1st to the full moon.	3,000
		Mubarakpur...	Rajgaddi ...	Kuar Puranmashi,	200
		Anwaun ...	Debi Asthan ...	Chait Sudi 9th ...	500
		Chero Tahi ...	Dasahra ...	Kuar Sudi 1st to 10th.	3,000
		Sumenda ...	Ditto ...	Ditto ...	600
		Gajendha ...	Dargah ...	Every Thursday in Asarh.	120
		Damraon ...	Ram Lila ...	Kuar Sudi 10th,	300
		Gajandarpur,	Ramnaumi ...	Chait Sudi 9th ...	1,000
		Kasari ...	Ram Lila ...	Kuar Sudi 10th ...	200
Ghosi	Ghosi ...	Sahroz ...	Ashnan (bathing fair).	Kartik Sudi Puranmashi.	3,000
		Dohrighat ...	Ditto ...	Ditto ...	10,500
		Ditto ...	Ram Lila ...	Kuar Sudi 10th ...	3,900
		Surajpur ...	Ditto ...	Ditto ...	2,025
		Gontha ...	Ditto ...	Ditto ...	1,500
		Imla ...	Ditto ...	Ditto ...	1,400
		Muhammadabad Sipah.	Ditto ...	Ditto ...	1,050
		Bilauli ...	Ditto ...	Ditto ...	1,080
		Qasba Ghosi,	Ditto ...	Ditto ...	3,050
		Pindhwal ...	Ditto ...	Ditto ...	560
		Karandand...	Ditto ...	Ditto ...	520
		Adampur ...	Dhanusyug ...	Aghan Sudi 5th ...	2,000
		Ratanpur ...	Ditto ...	Ditto ...	560
	Natthupur,	Bakmannu *alias* Dargah.	Dargah Miran Sahib.	Jeth Sudi 10th ...	4,050

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